

DC COMICS

JAMES

ROBINSON

JAVIER

PULIDO

5

THE SHADE

VAMPIRES
ON THE HIGH SEAS!



RATED T+ TEEN PLUS

APR 2012

PULIDO.011

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YOU KNOW, IT'S A FUNNY THING, BUT
WHEN I THINK ABOUT MY LATEST
ADVENTURE--**THIS** PART OF IT,
ANYWAY--IN HINDSIGHT, I REALIZE...

...IT WAS ALL
ABOUT **BLOOD**.

HOW CAN YOU
GO ON LIVING
KNOWING
WHAT YOU
ARE?

HOW CAN YOU
NOT TAKE THE
KNIFE TO YOUR
THROAT? NO, I
FORGET, SUCH
A THING
WOULDN'T
KILL YOU. WHY,
THE WOUND
WOULD HEAL
AS QUICKLY
AS IT FORMED.

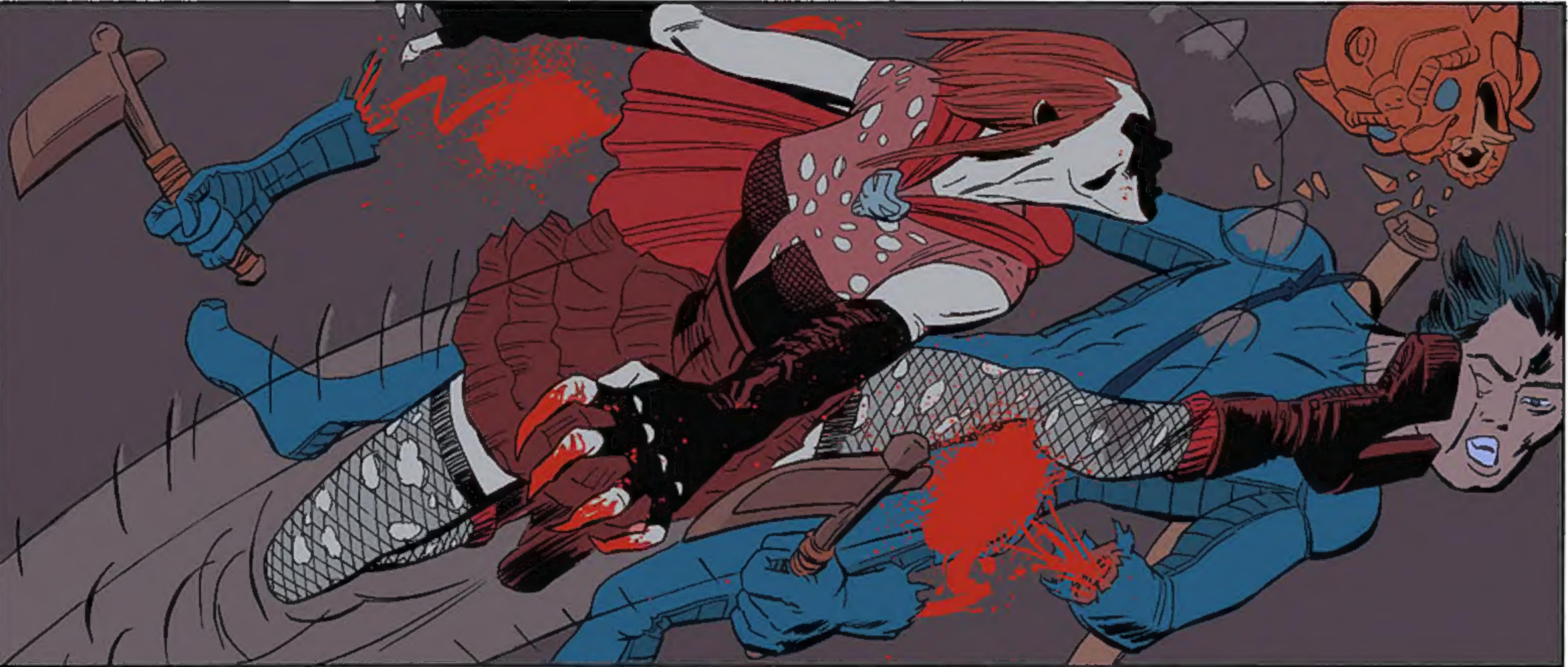
BUT A
STAKE TO
THE HEART.
THAT
WOULD
WORK.

OR SUNLIGHT.

HOW CAN YOU
BEAR TO EXIST,
KNOWING
WHAT YOU ARE?

DEAD.

A DEAD
THING...



I SPIT ON THE PEOPLE WHO CROWN YOU THEIR HERO... THEIR CHAMPION. THEY OF THE "CITAT VELLA" WHO CALL YOU "VERGE DE LA NIT."

HEROINE QUEEN OF BARCELONA, PROTECTOR OF CATALUNYA.

I SPIT ON THOSE FOOLS, FOR TO LOVE YOU IS TO LOVE DAMNATION.

YES, THESE VILLAINS, LOS TOMADORES... "THE TAKERS"... THEY WALK THE PATH OF GREED, THEY SIN, ONE OF THE SEVEN DEADLY, GREED, YES, YES...

...BUT YOU TRANSCEND THAT SIN? WHY, YOU ARE EVIL PERSONIFIED.

COME THEN, FIGHT ME! TAKE ME IF YOU CAN, CLAWS AND TEETH! YOU WHORE OF THE DEVIL!



FIRSTLY, I PRAY NIGHTLY TO MY GOD ABOVE.

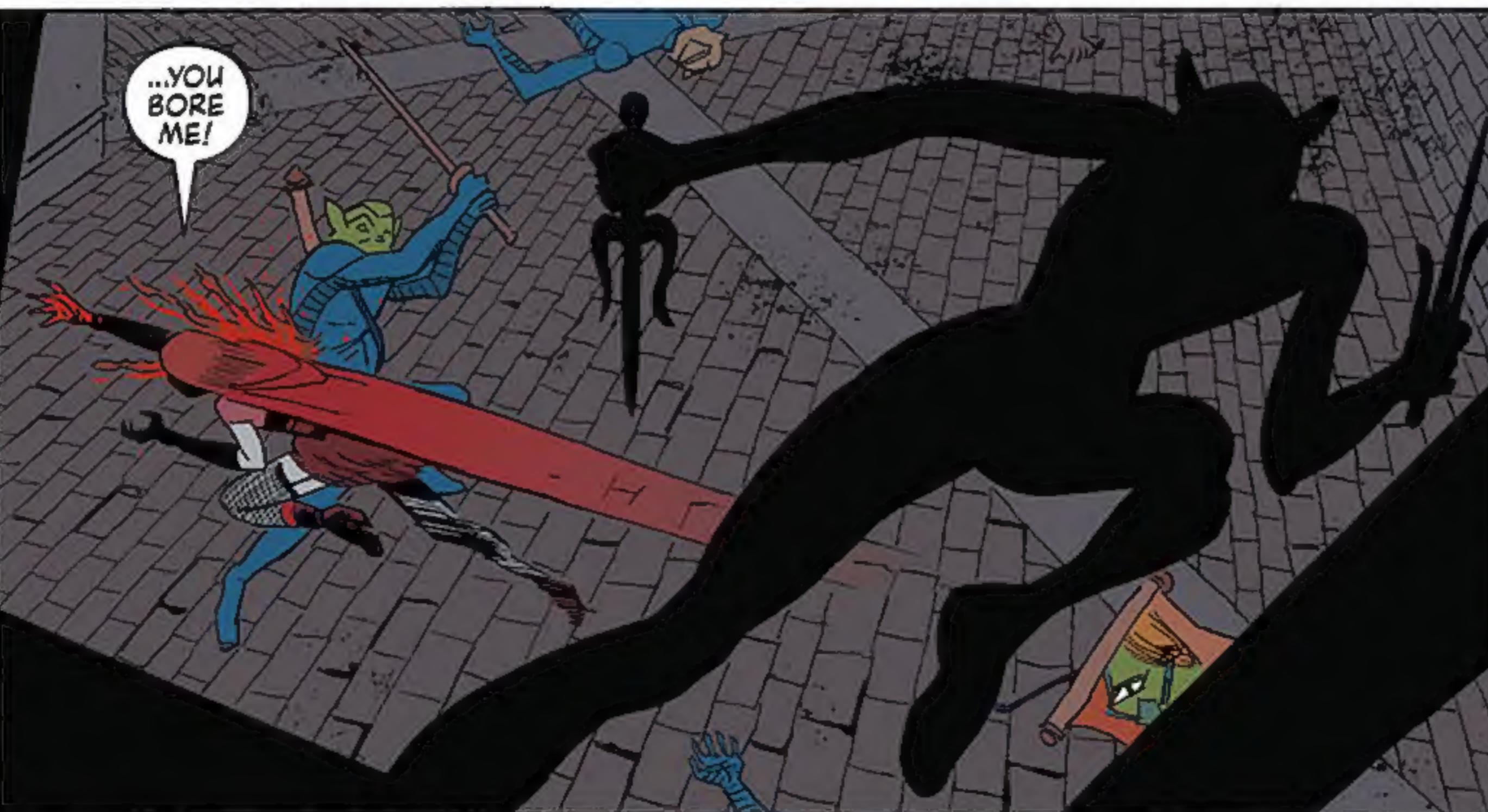
SECONDLY, I AM NO ONE'S WHORE, INDEED, A VIRGIN, I.



I HAVE LIVED MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS THUS, AND SEE NO REASON, NO SHINING KNIGHT, SUCH THAT THE SAD THING THAT IS MY LONELY HEART MIGHT BLOSSOM OTHER THAN.



AND THIRDLY... THIRDLY... OH, NO MATTER...



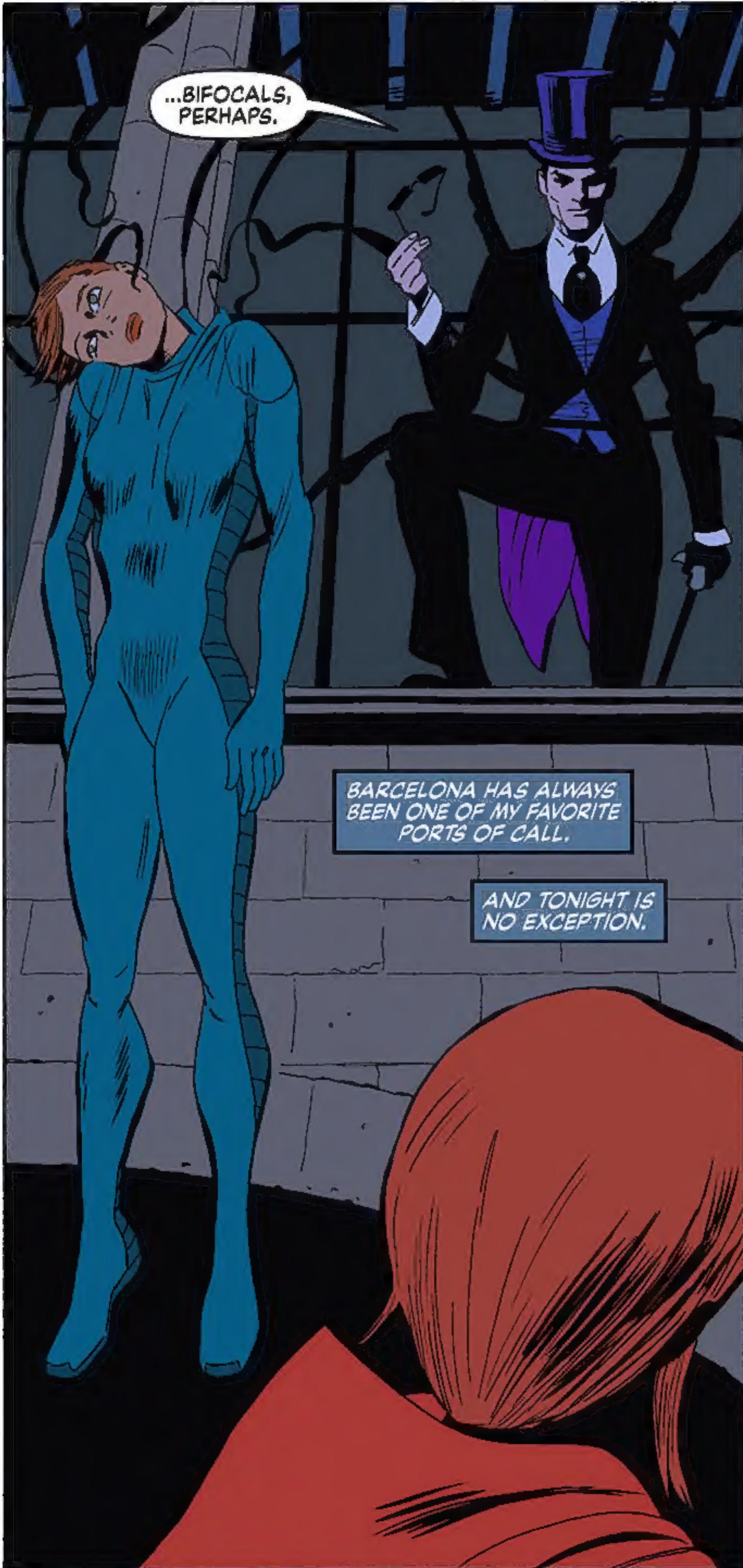
...YOU BORE ME!



YOU'RE GETTING CLUMSY, OLD WOMAN. SHALL WE GET YOUR EYES TESTED? DO YOU NEED GLASSES...?



BITCH! MY MAN DIES, SO YOU TOO--



MEMORIA ROJA

JAMES
ROBINSON
writer

JAVIER
PULIDO
artist

HILARY
SYCAMORE
colorist

TODD
KLEIN
letterer

TONY
HARRIS
cover
artist

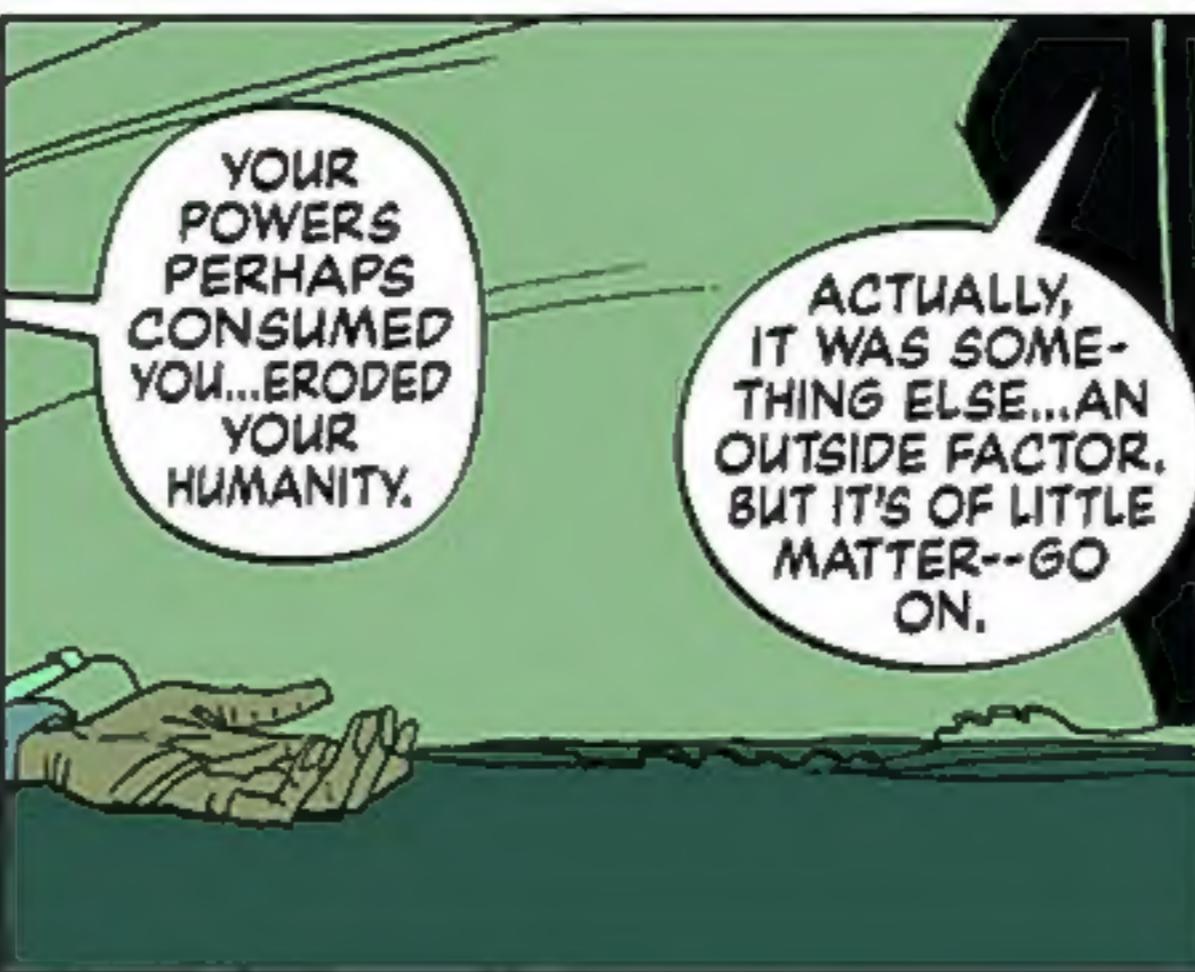
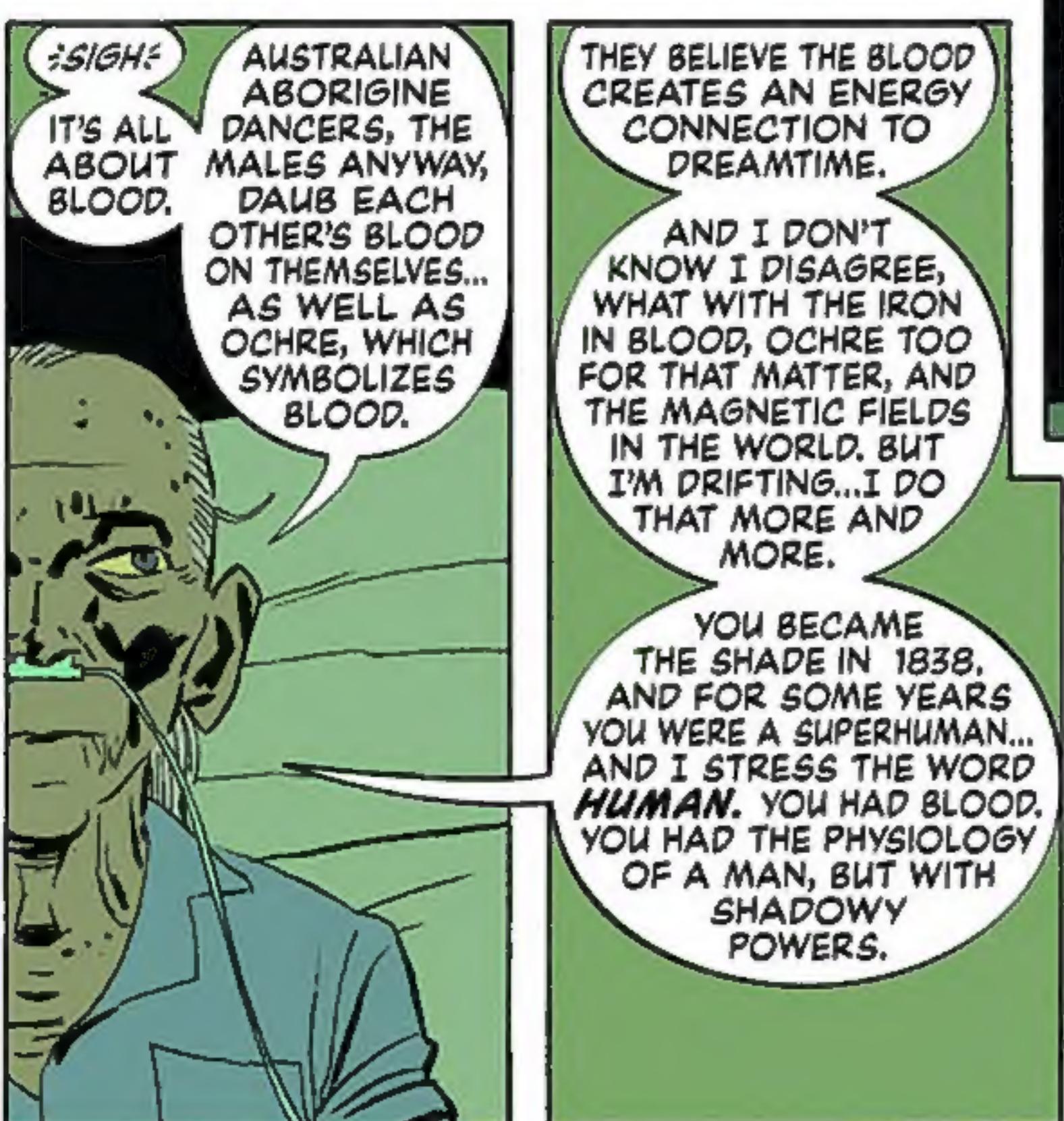
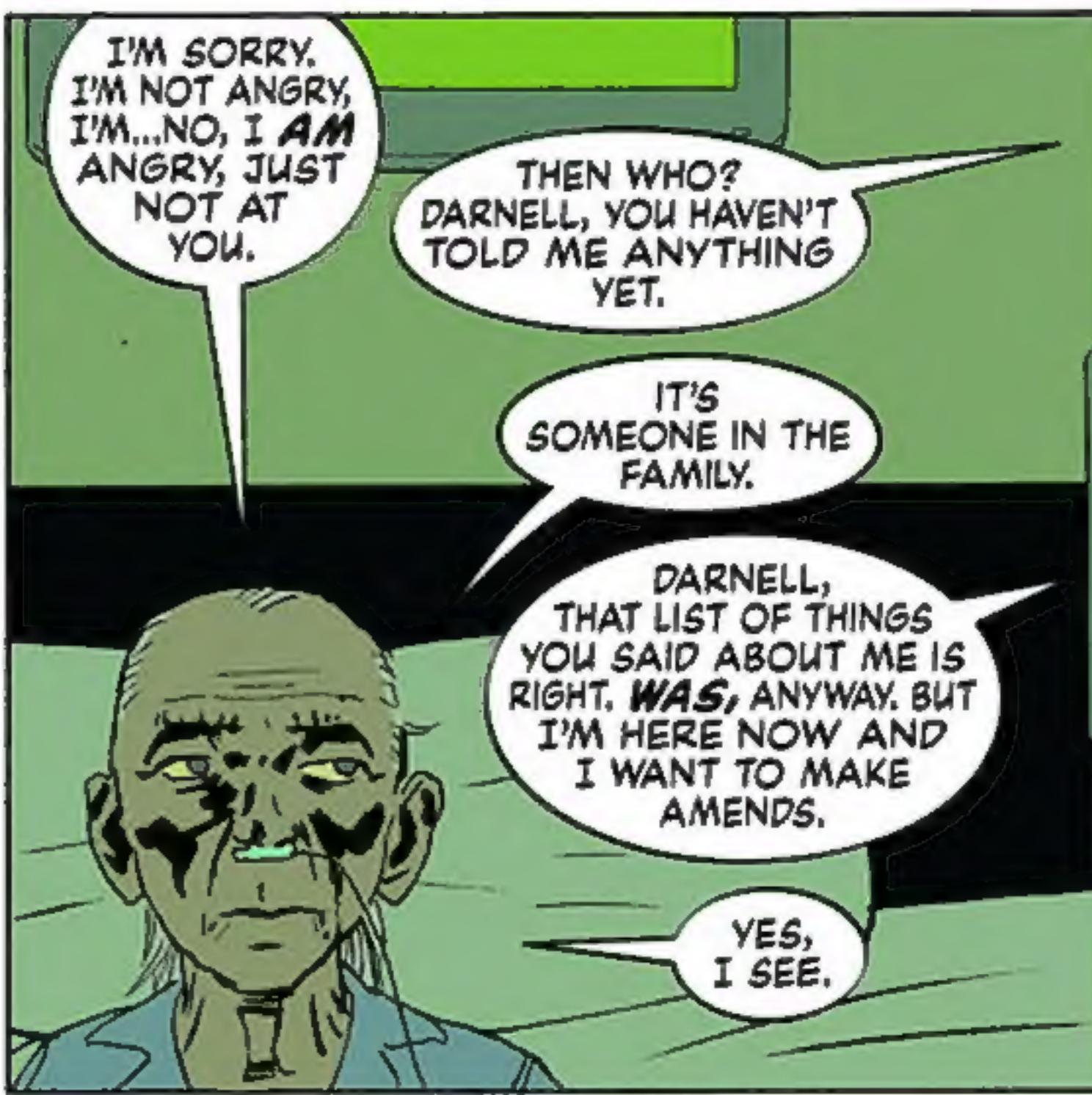
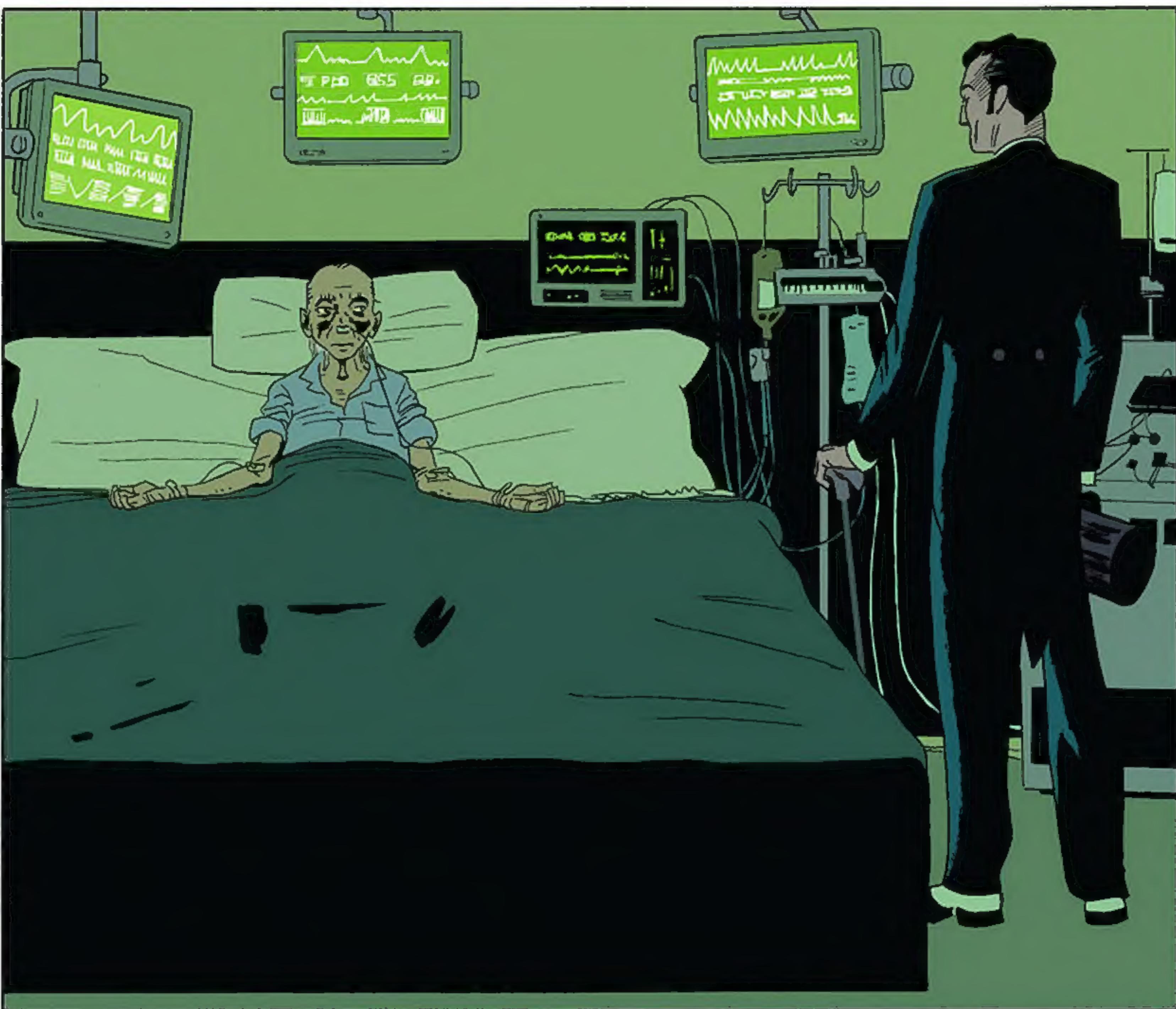
JAVIER
PULIDO
variant
cover
artist

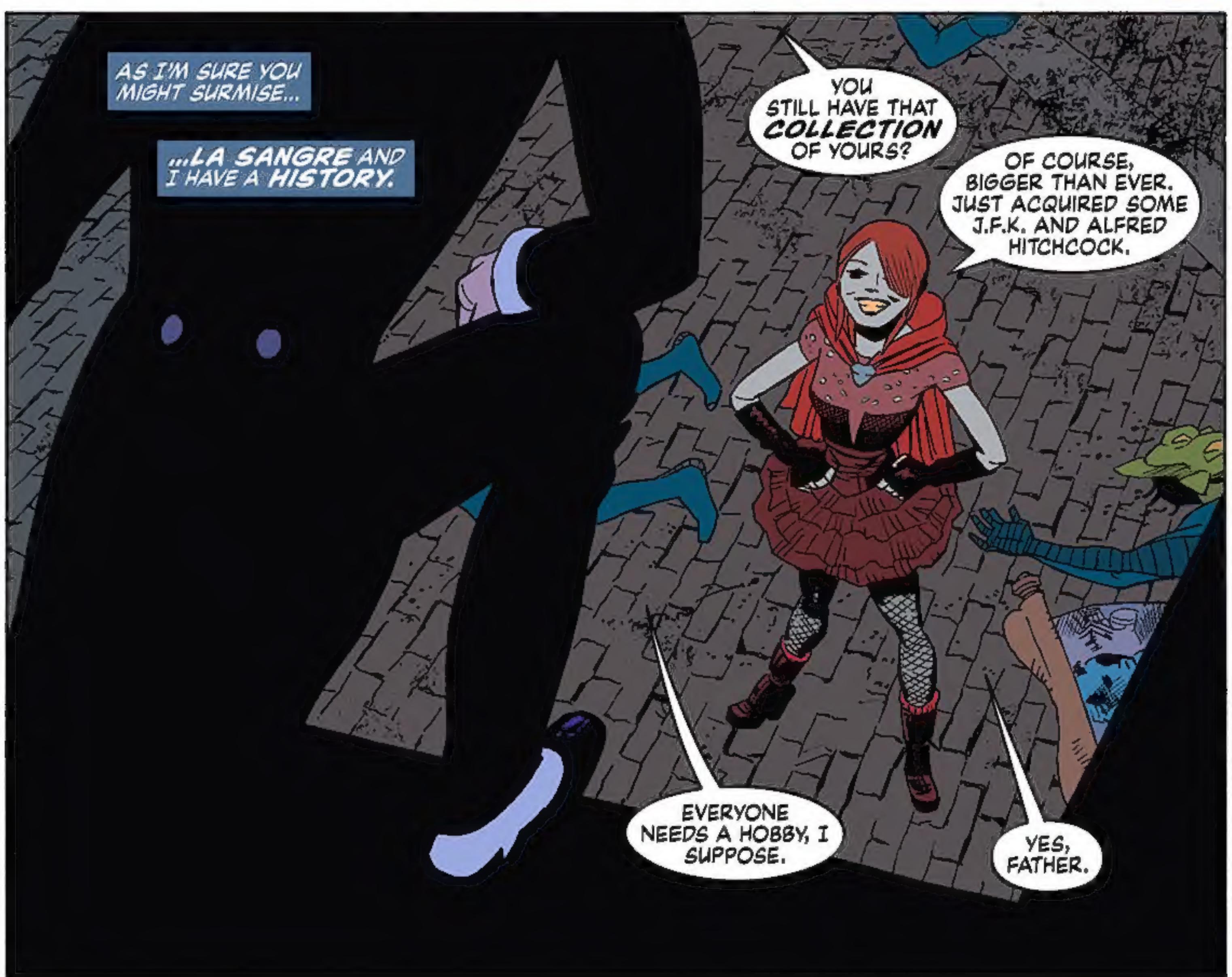
WIL
MOSS
editor
cover
artist

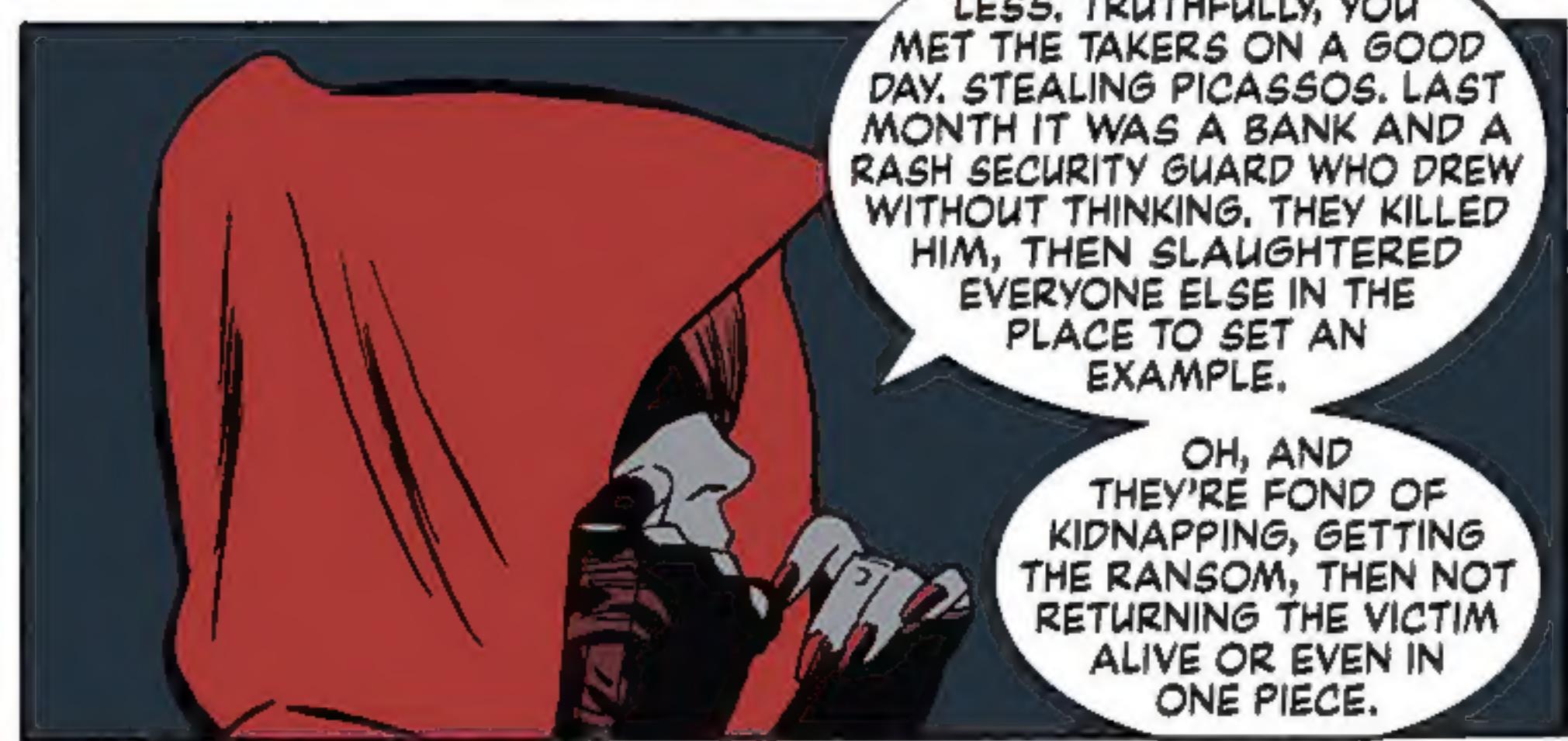
HELLO,
GRANDFATHER.

AUSTRALIA. THREE DAYS AGO.



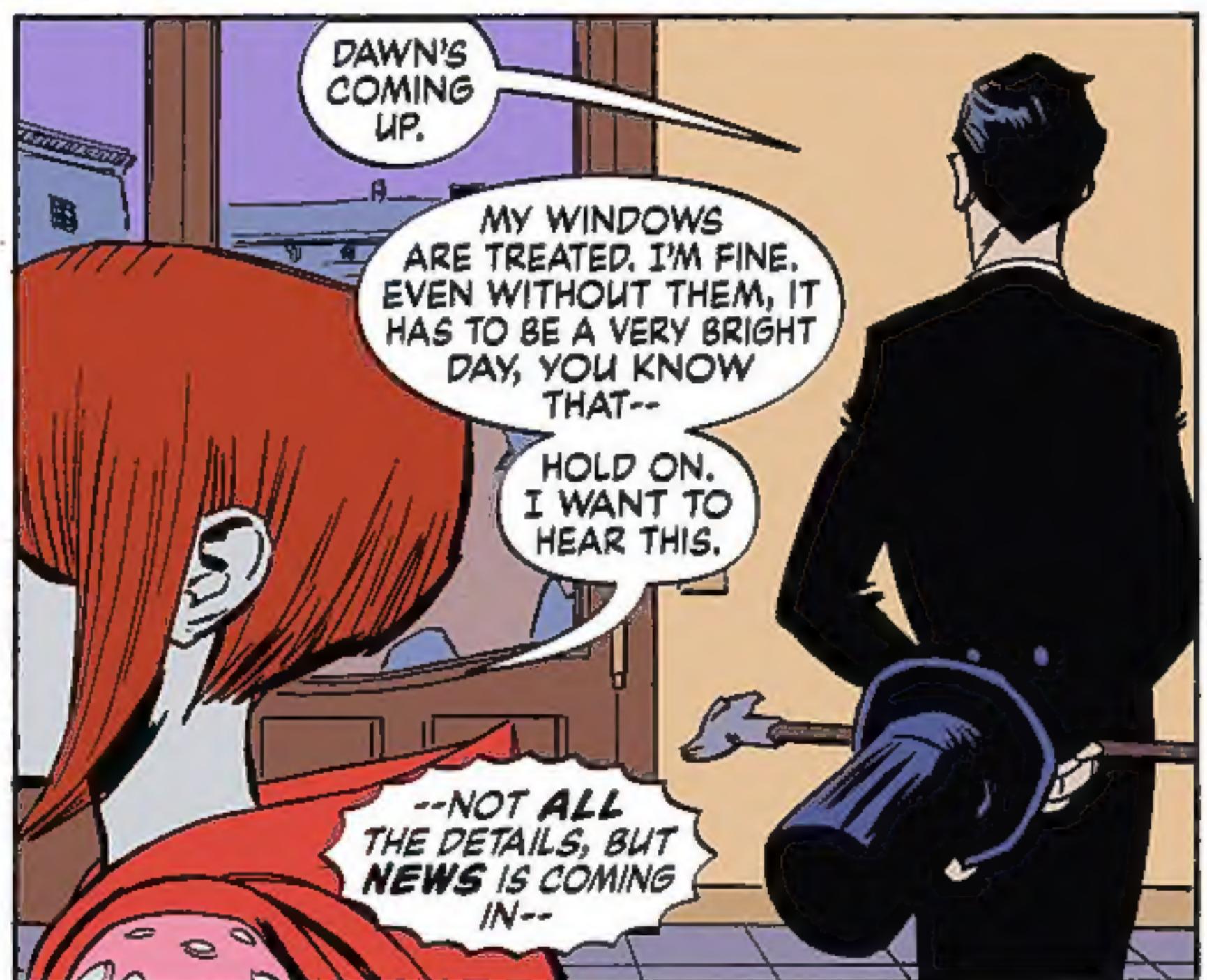
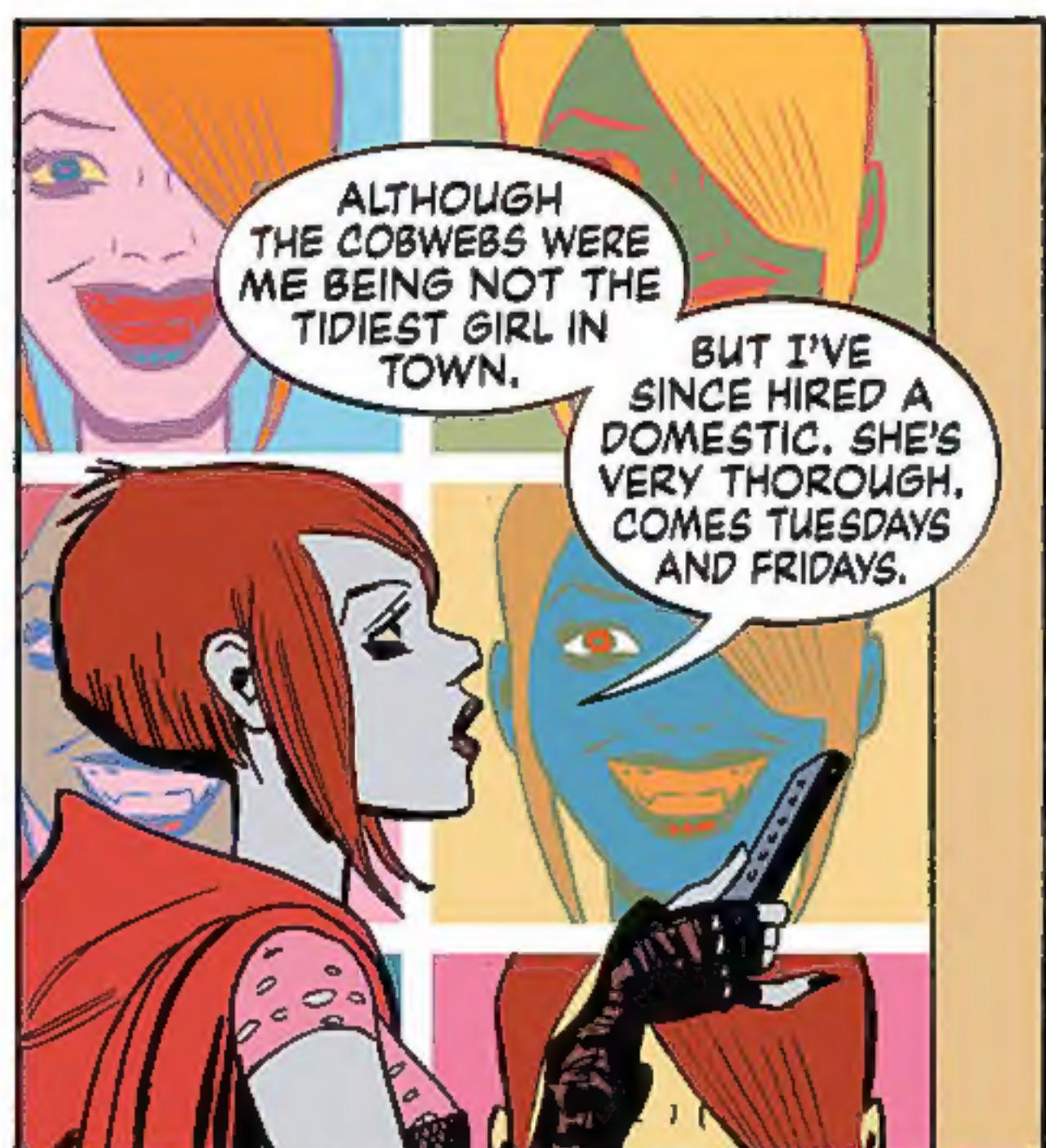






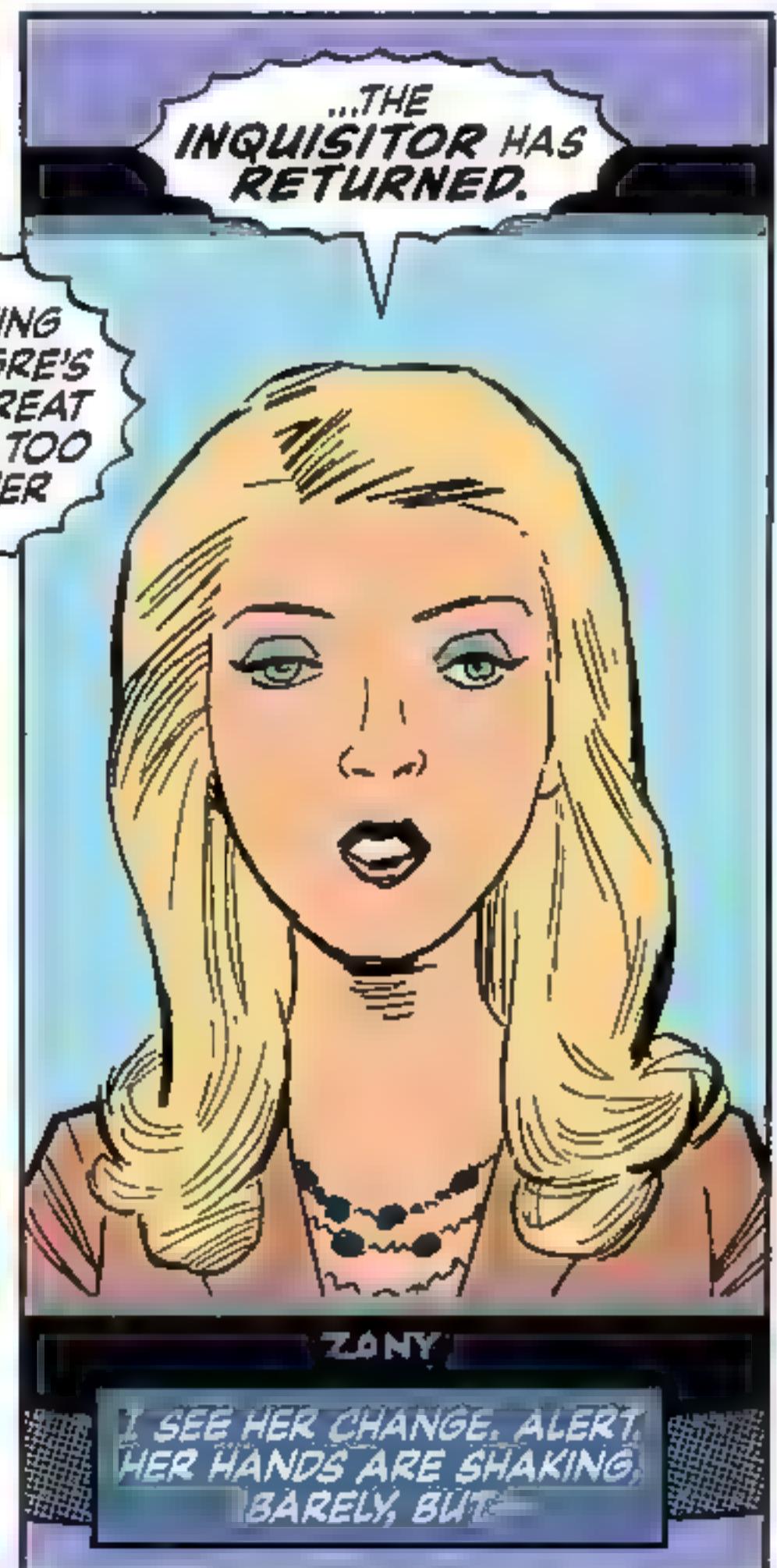
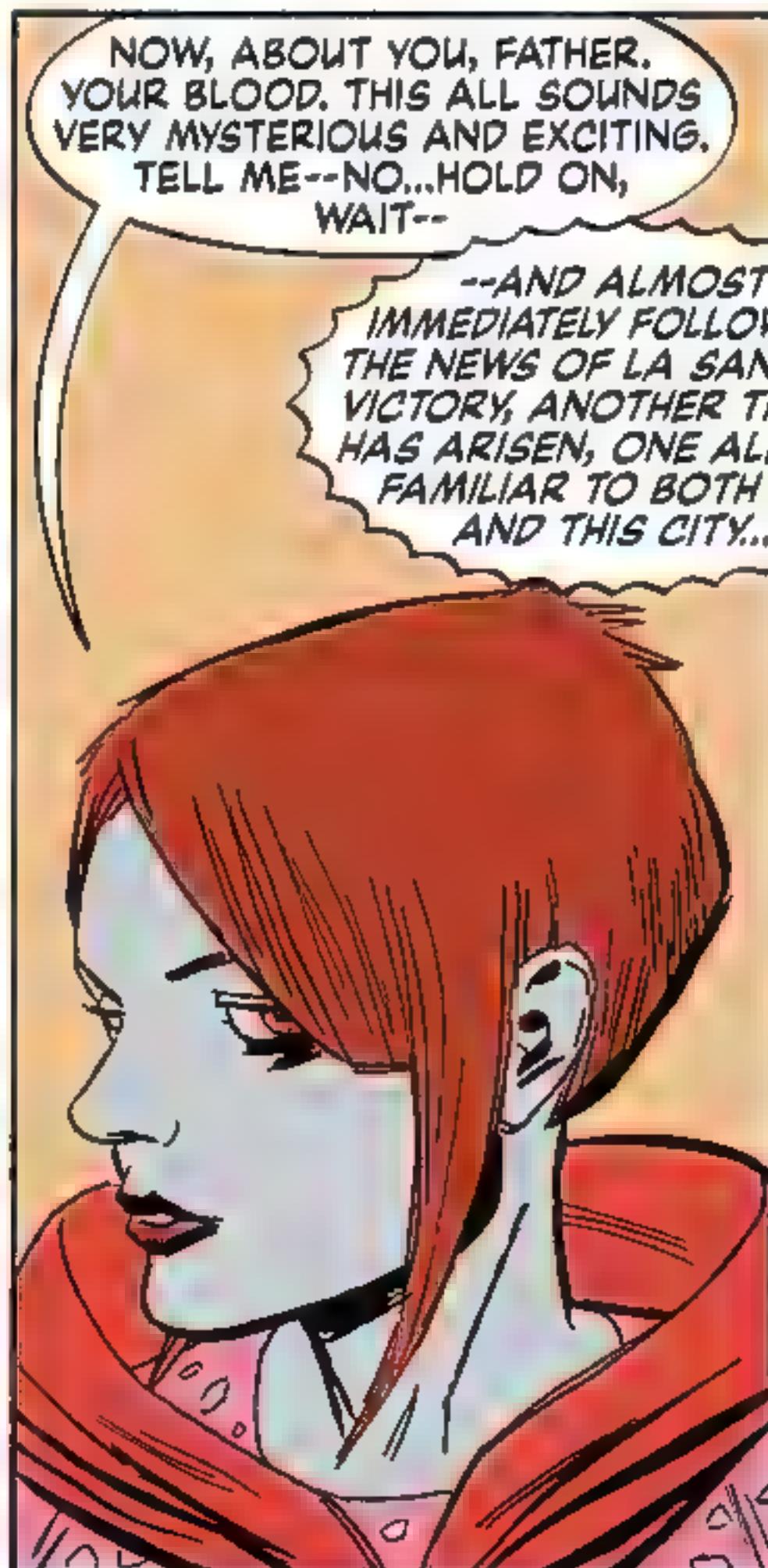
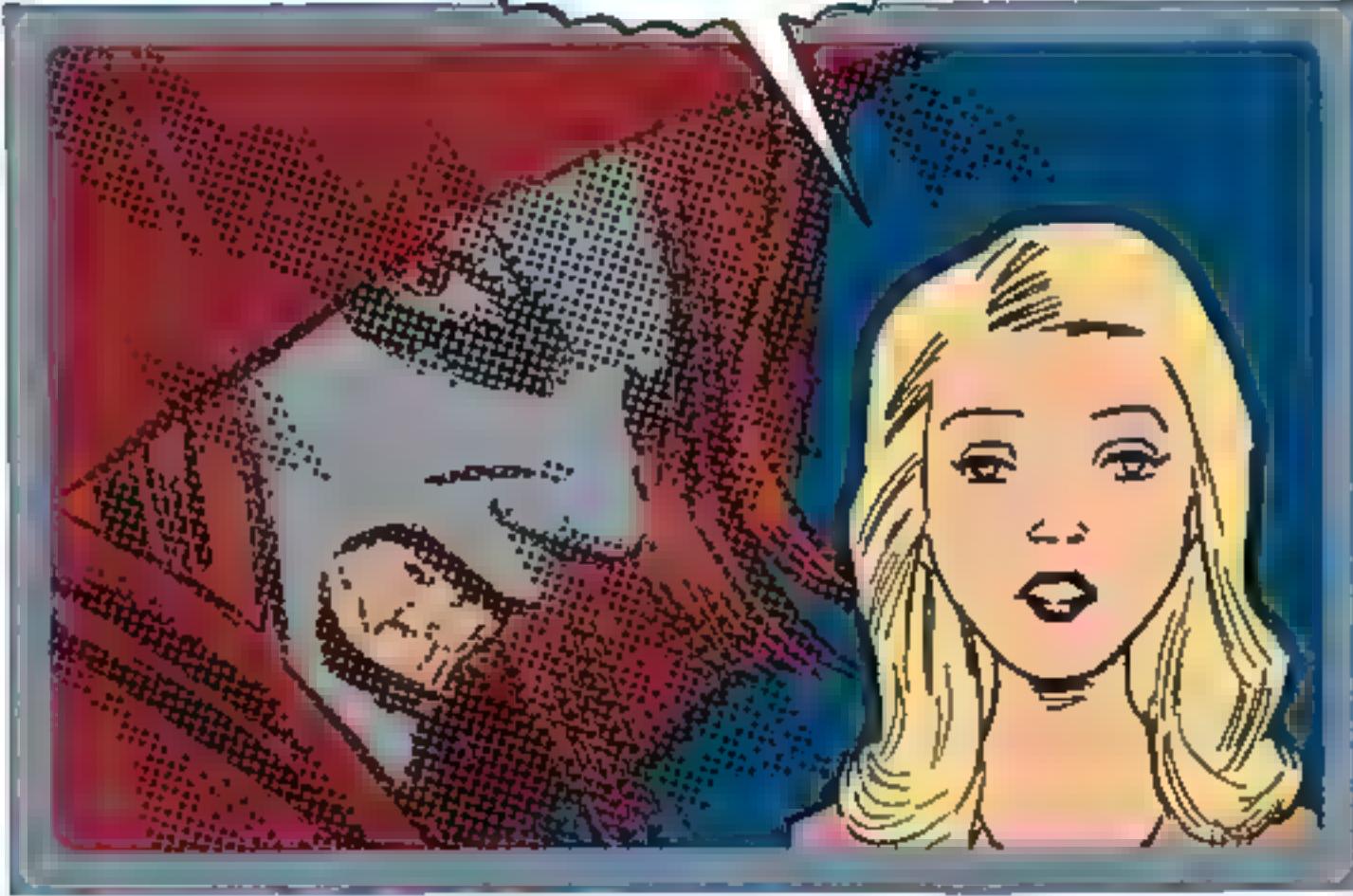
NOW LET'S GO, FATHER. JUSTICE IS SERVED AND I'VE BEEN FED.

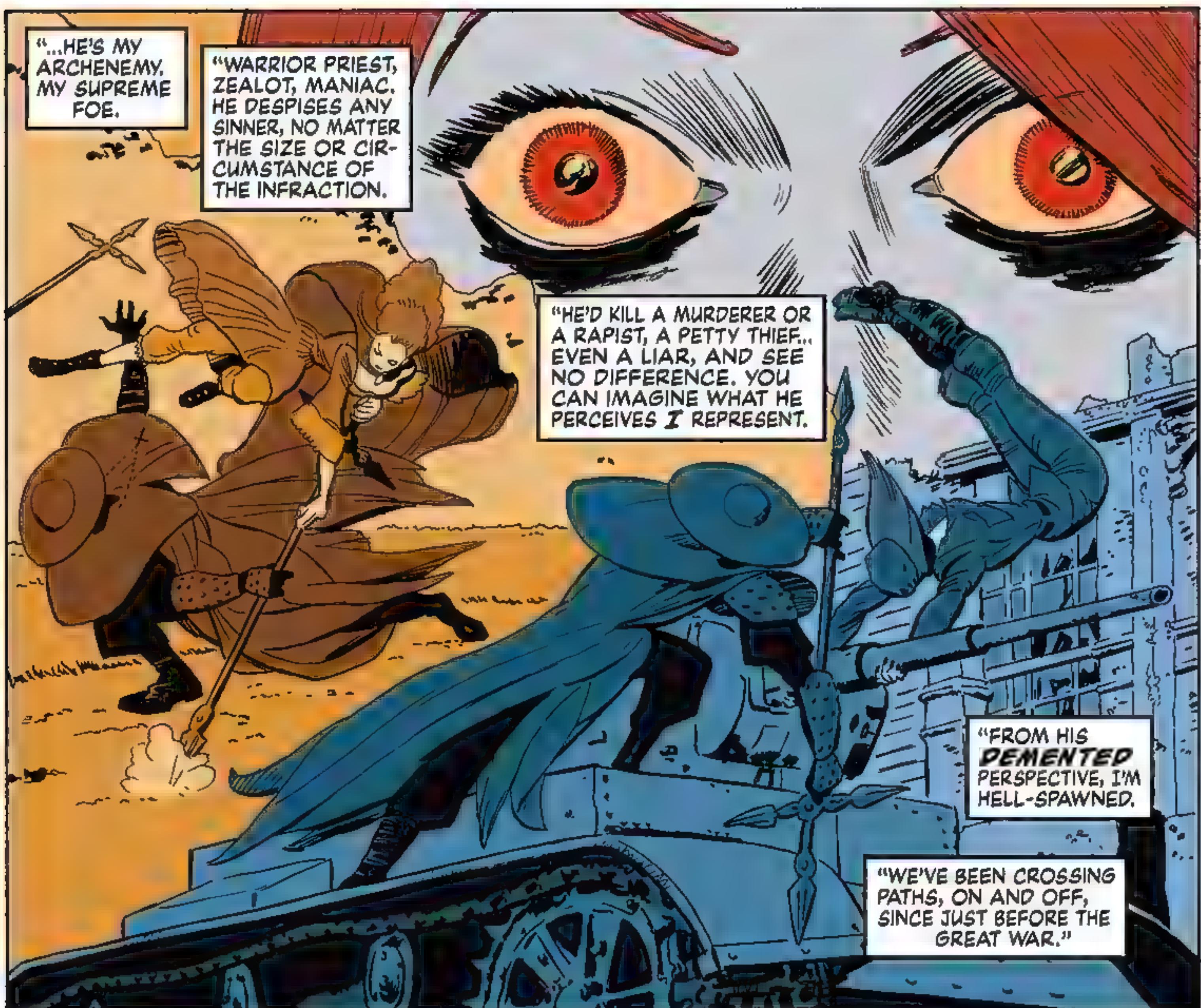
GAUDI'S LA PEDRERA BUILDING.

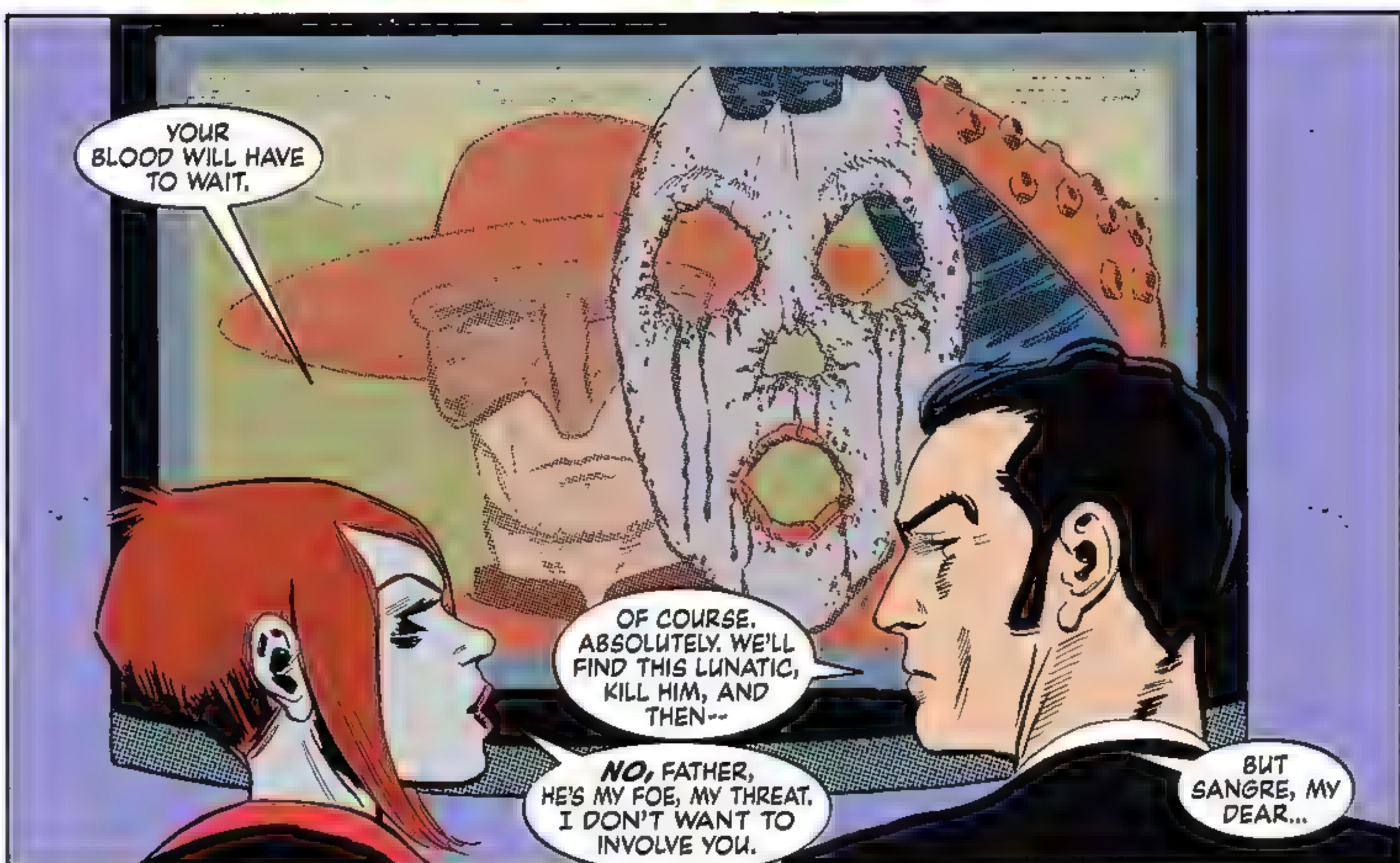
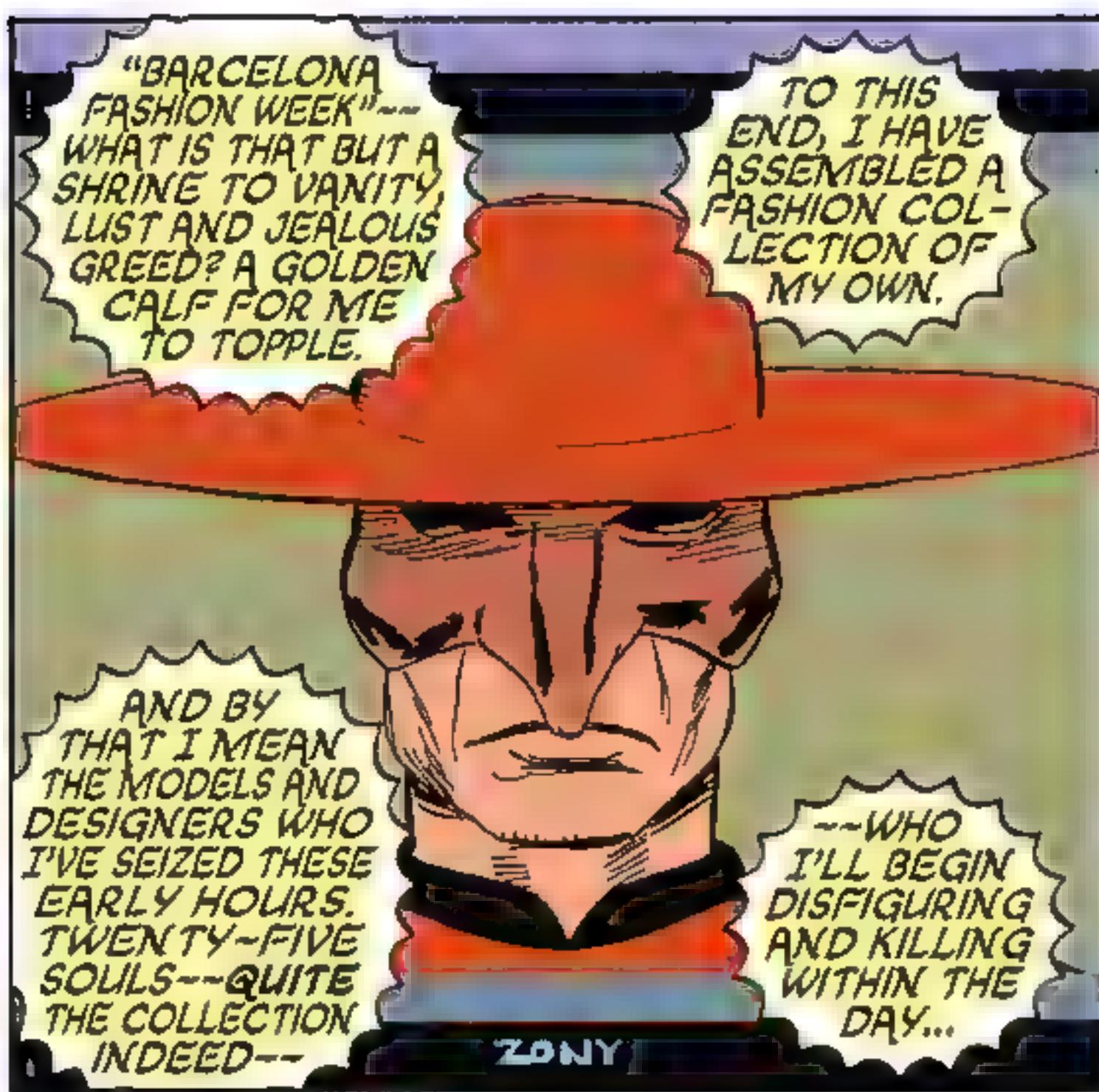


--THAT THE TAKERS HAVE BEEN DEFEATED BY **LA SANGRE** AFTER THEIR REIGN OF TERROR OVER BARCELONA, WHICH HAD LEFT THIRTY-SEVEN DEAD.

THE PARENTS OF RAUL PINA, THE LAST OF THE KIDNAPPED CHILDREN, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THIS WOULDN'T BRING THEIR DEAD SON BACK, THEY THANKED THE CITY'S CHAMPION AND DEFENDER FOR AT LEAST BRINGING RAUL'S KILLERS TO JUSTICE.



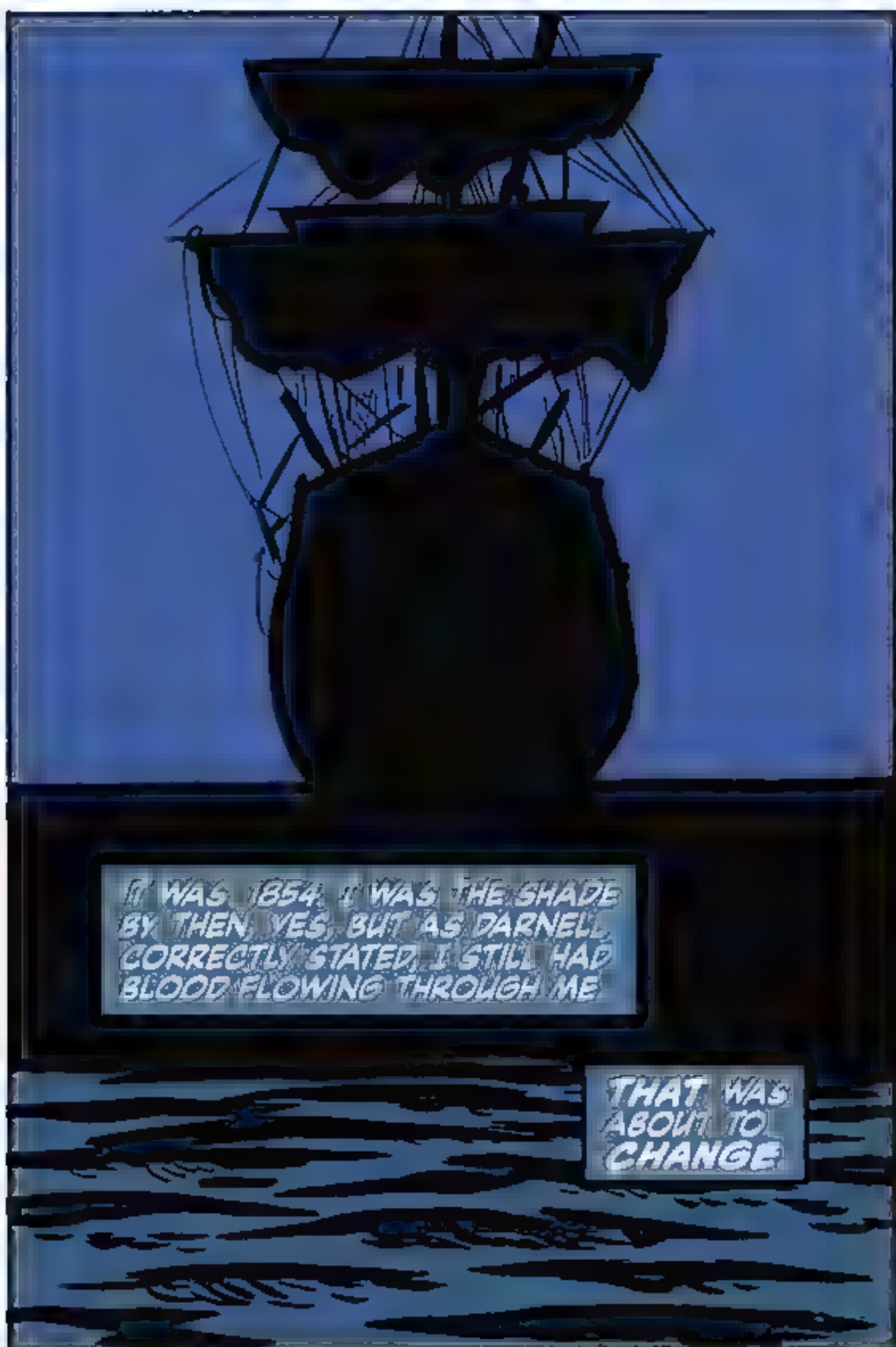




"...AREN'T I INVOLVED ALREADY?"

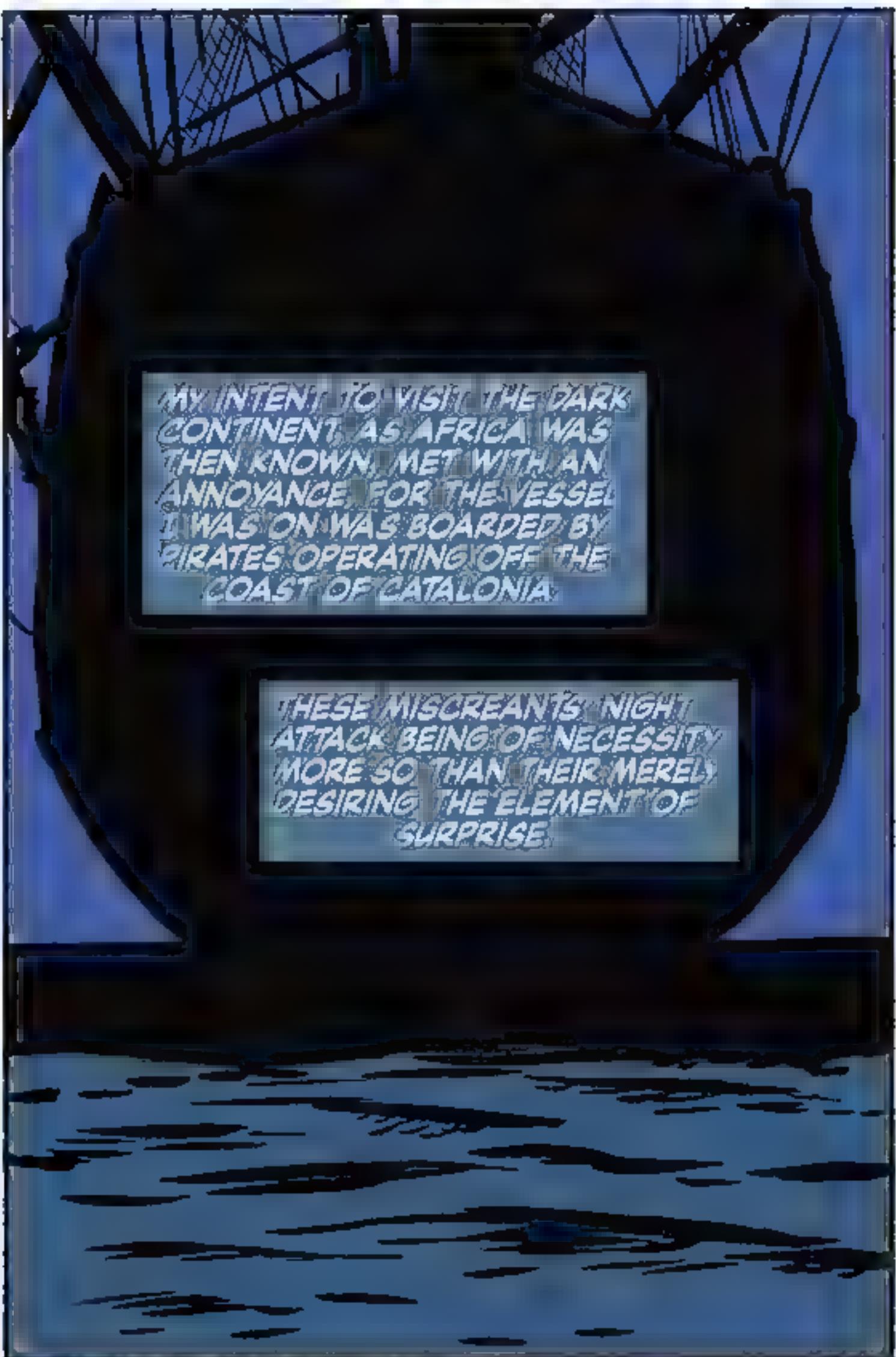
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD EXPLAIN SOME OF THIS EH? LA SANGRE AND I

FIRST, AS I'VE SAID TO HER AD NAUSEAM, I'M NOT HER FATHER, BUT IN LIGHT OF THE SINGULAR EVENTS SURROUNDING OUR FIRST MEETING, I SUPPOSE I UNDERSTAND HER INSISTENCE ON THE MATTER.



IT WAS 1854. I WAS THE SHADE BY THEN, YES, BUT AS DARNELL CORRECTLY STATED, I STILL HAD BLOOD FLOWING THROUGH ME

THAT WAS ABOUT TO CHANGE



MY INTENTION TO VISIT THE DARK CONTINENT, AS AFRICA WAS THEN KNOWN, MET WITH AN ANNOYANCE FOR THE VESSEL I WAS ON WAS BOARDED BY PIRATES OPERATING OFF THE COAST OF CATALONIA.

THESE MISCREANTS NIGHT ATTACK BEING OF NECESSITY MORE SO THAN THEIR MERELY DESIRING THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE

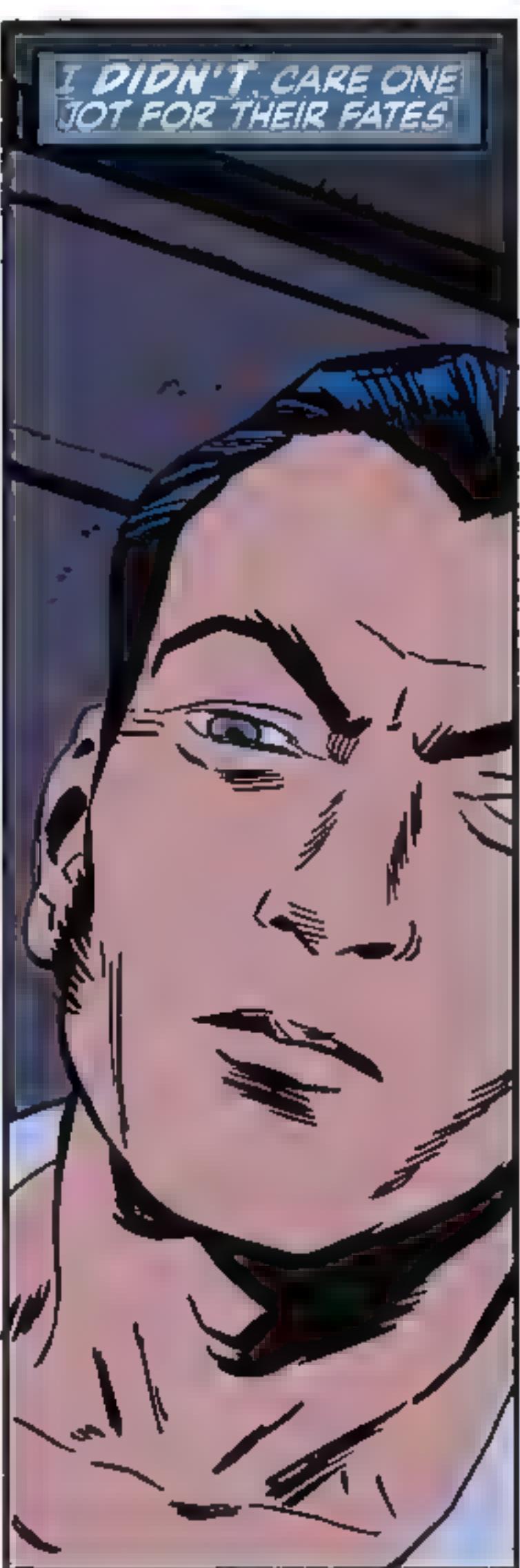
...FOR THEY WERE VAMPIRES.



I WAS ROUSED FROM SLEMBER BY THE SCREAMS OF THE SHIP'S CREW AND THOSE OF MY FELLOW PASSENGERS--A JEWELER FROM BILBAO, HIS WIFE AND BABY DAUGHTER.



I DIDN'T CARE ONE JOT FOR THEIR FATES.

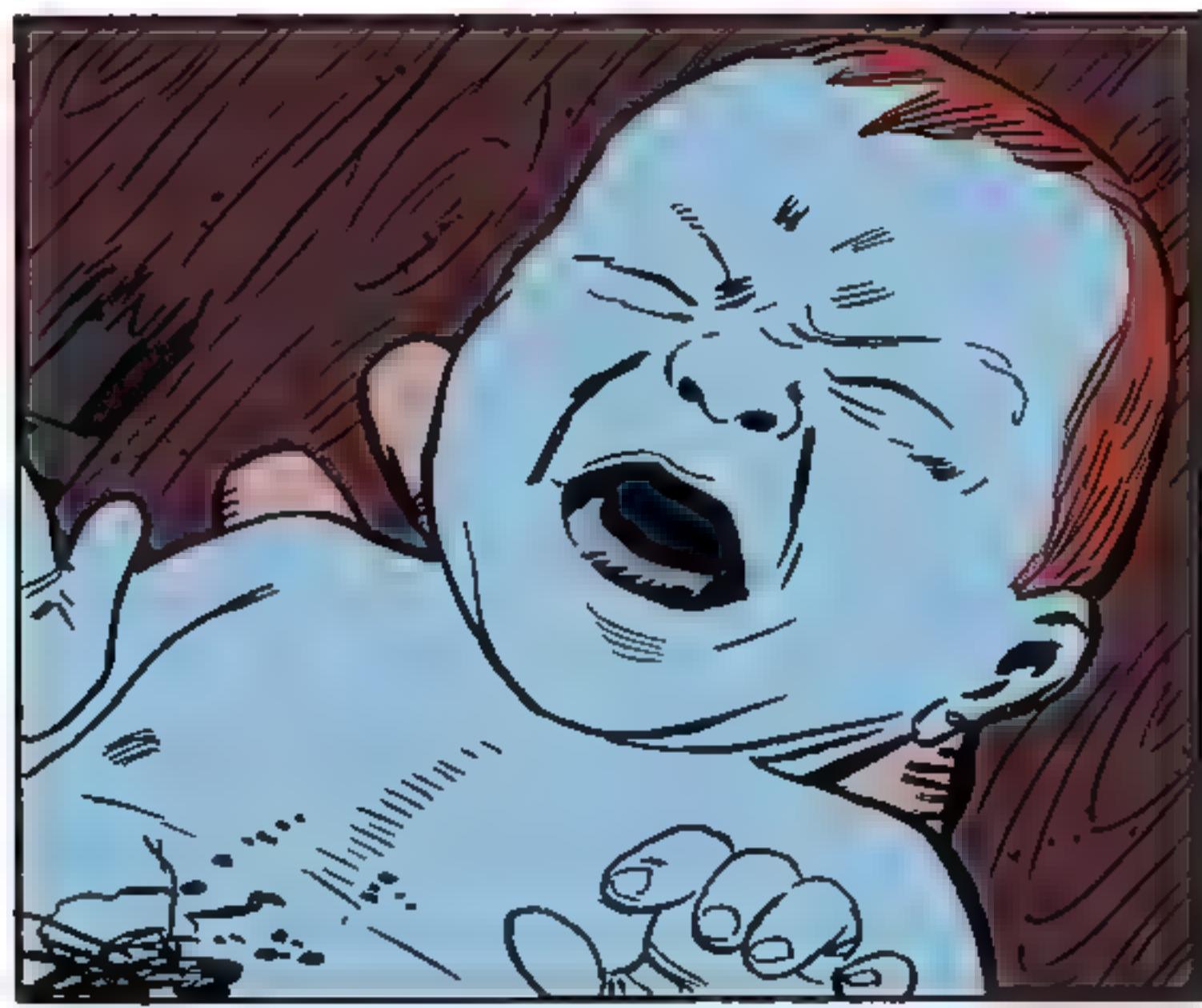
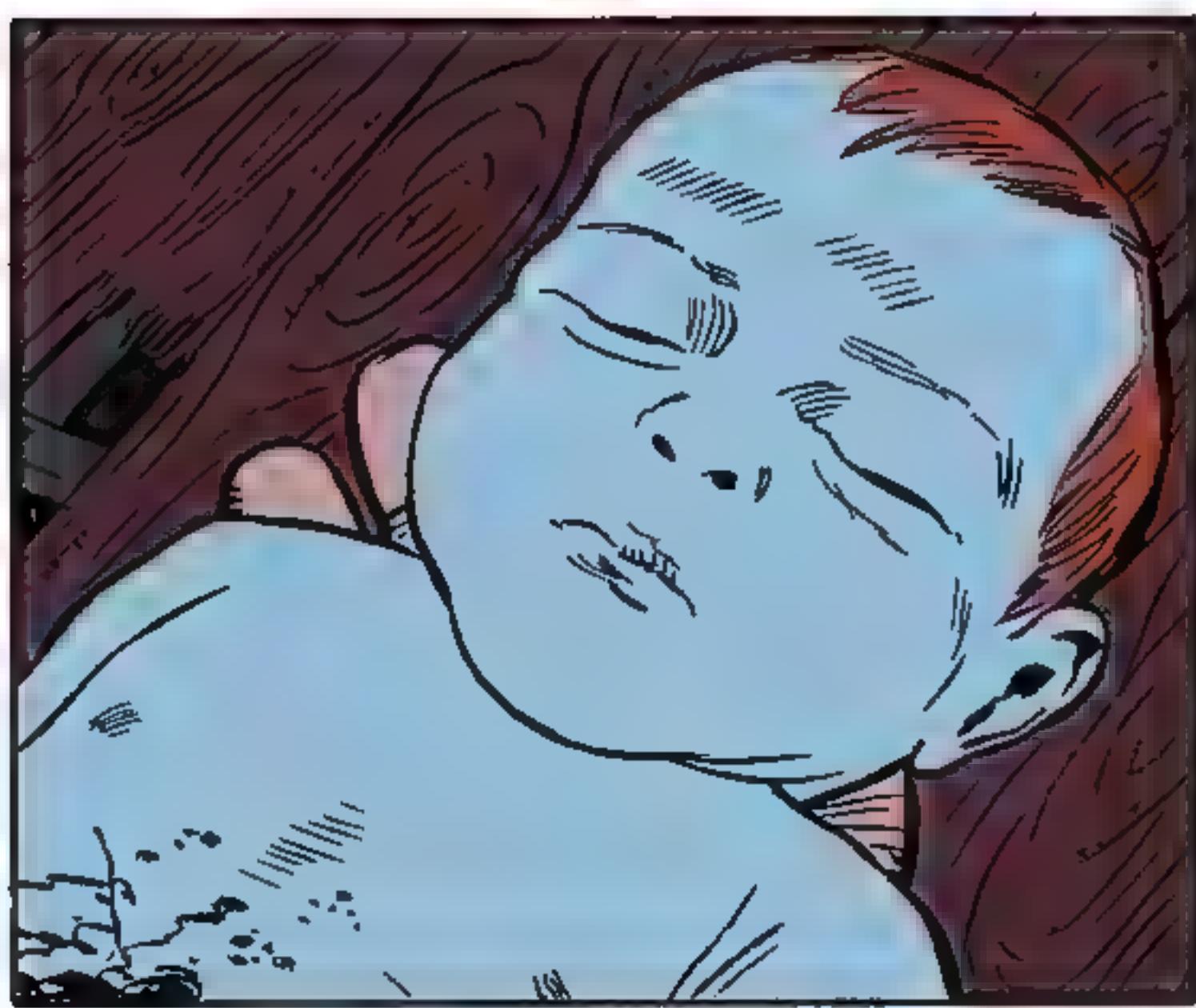
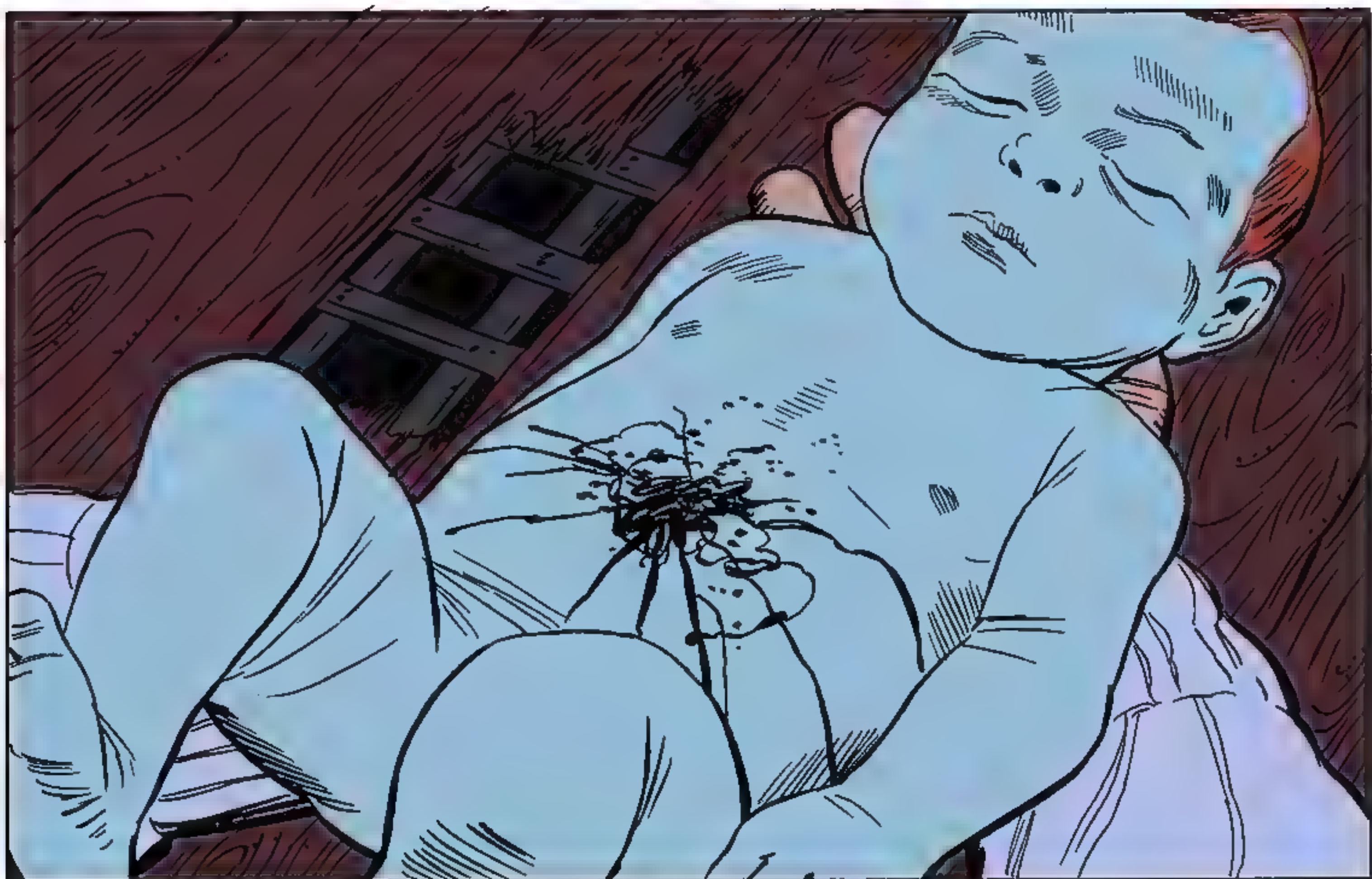
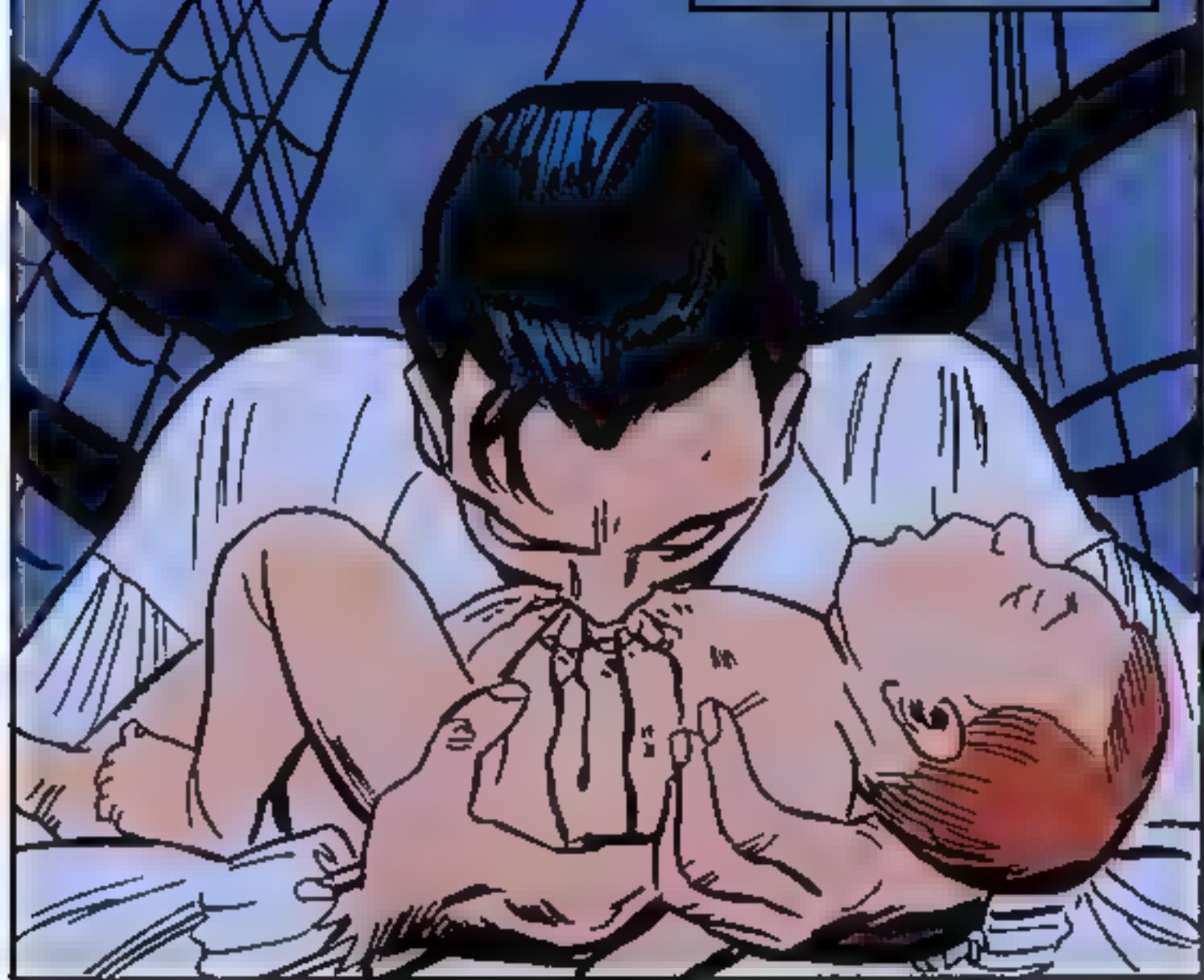


NOT ONE TO



I DIDN'T KNOW IF WHAT I ATTEMPTED WOULD WORK. I'D READ OF WAYS TO DEAL WITH SNAKE VENOM, OF COURSE. SNAKE BITES.

I THOUGHT PERHAPS I MIGHT HAVE THE SAME RESULT WITH THE POISON OF A VAMPIRE. IF I WAS IN TIME.

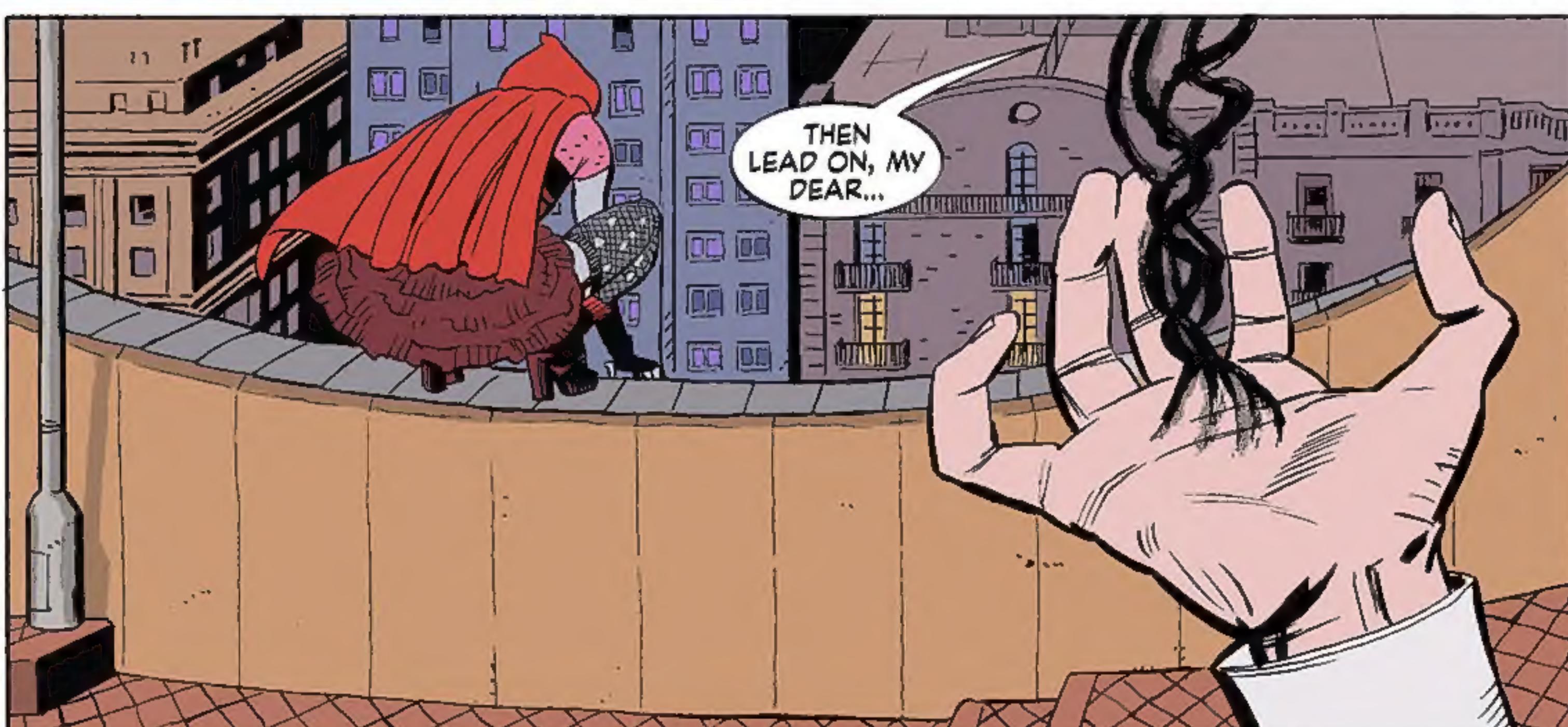
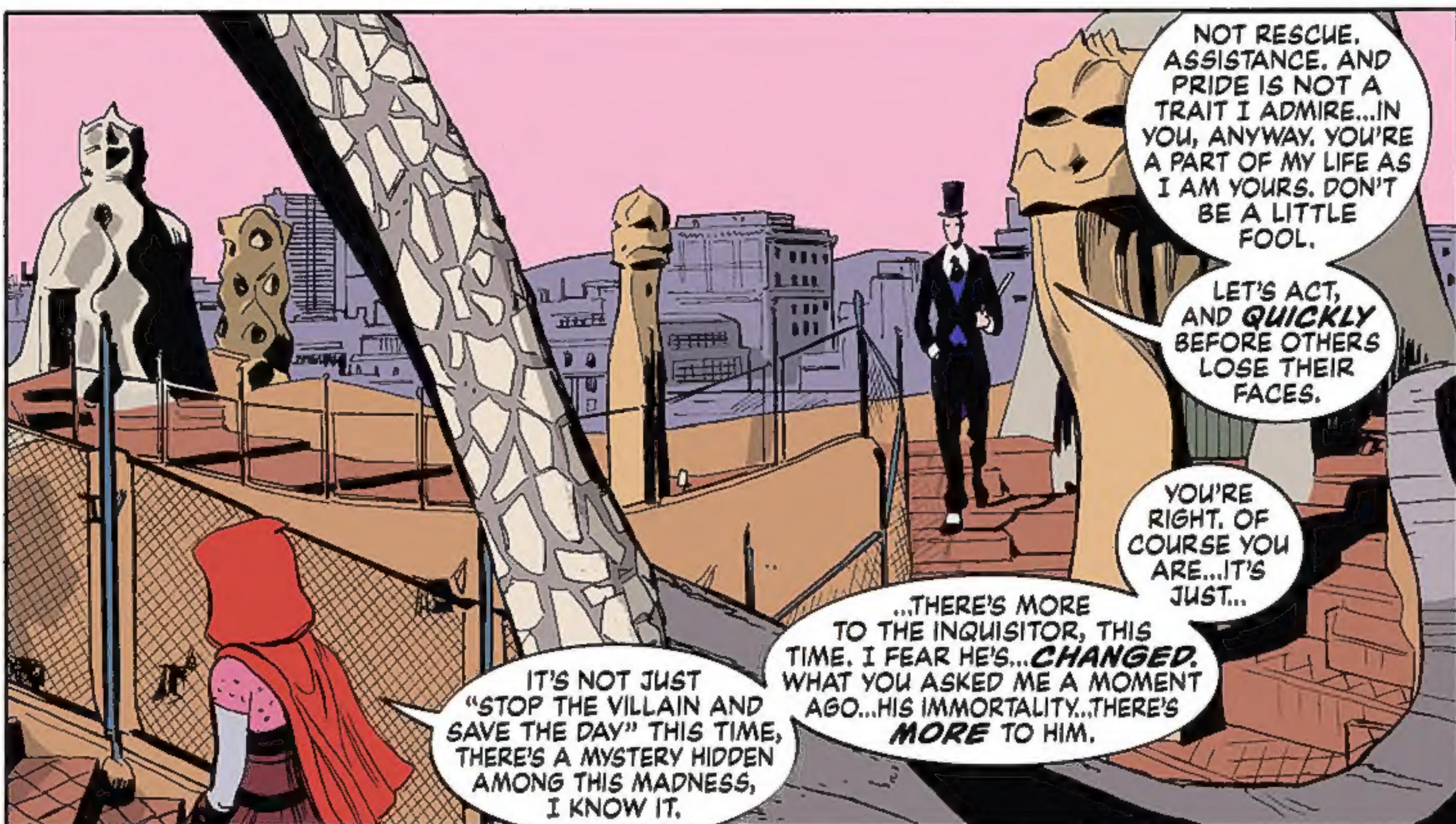
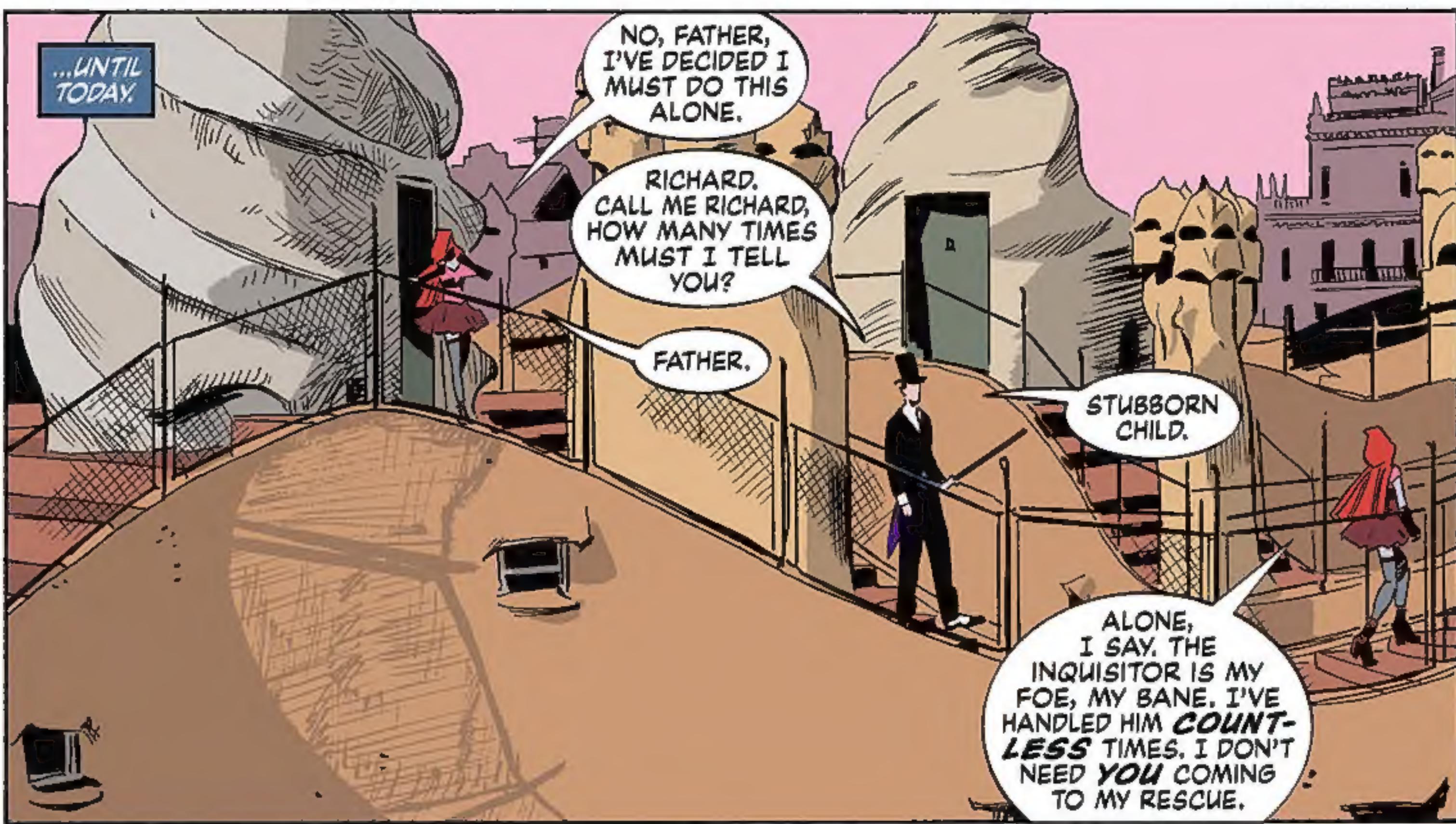




THE BABY GREW, BUT AFTER APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN YEARS STOPPED AGING ALTOGETHER. CHANGED BY THE VAMPIRE'S BITE, BUT NOT TO THE EXTENT SHE MIGHT HAVE HAD I NOT BEEN THERE.

AND I CHANGED, TOO. THAT WAS THE MOMENT MY BLOOD TURNED TO BLACKNESS, SOME ASPECT OF THE VAMPIRE TOXIN IN MY MOUTH...PERHAPS I HAD A BLEEDING GUM...PERHAPS, PERHAPS ALL MANNER OF POSSIBILITIES AND REASONS WHY.







...LET'S
SOLVE IT
TOGETHER!

next issue:
MONTPELLIER!

FROM THE WRITER OF SUPERMAN &
JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

JAMES ROBINSON

with TONY HARRIS

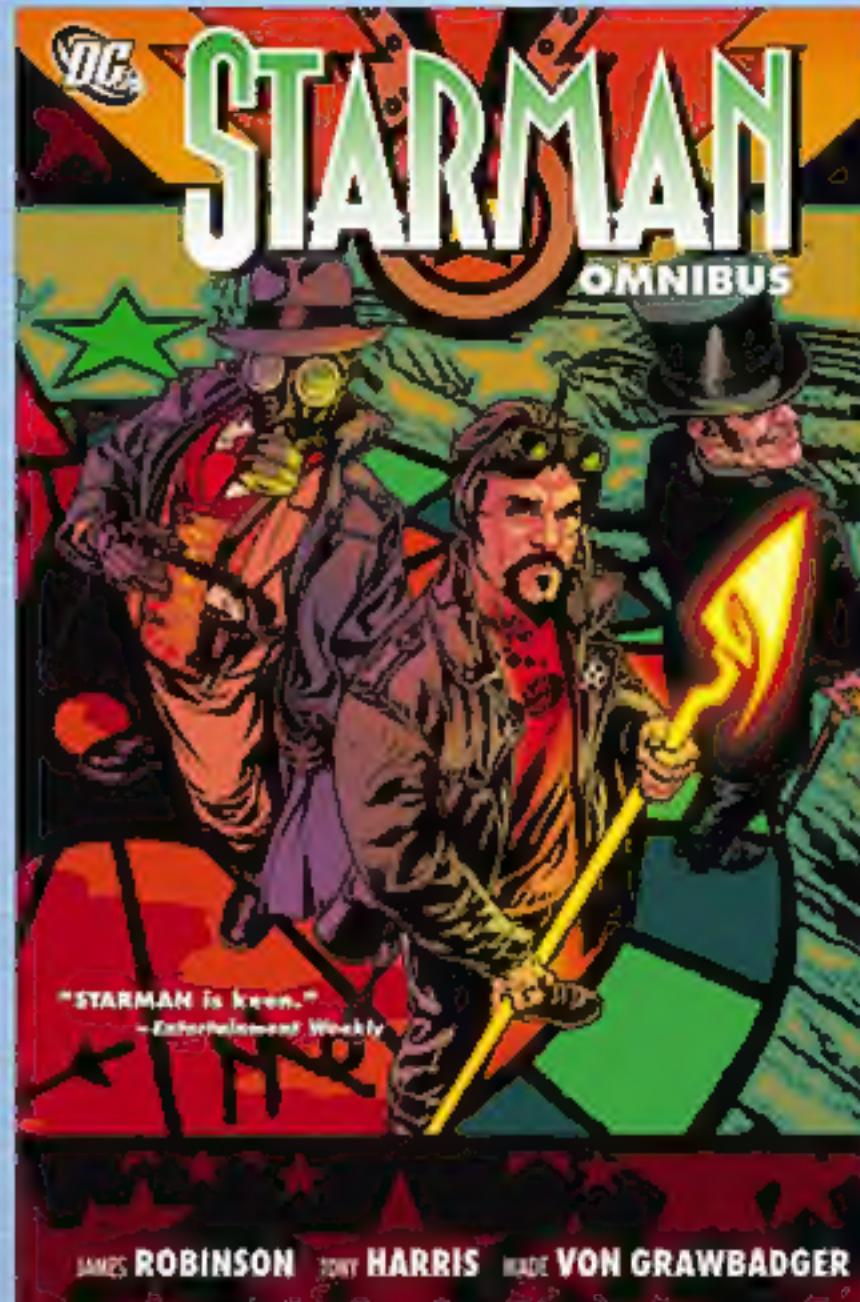
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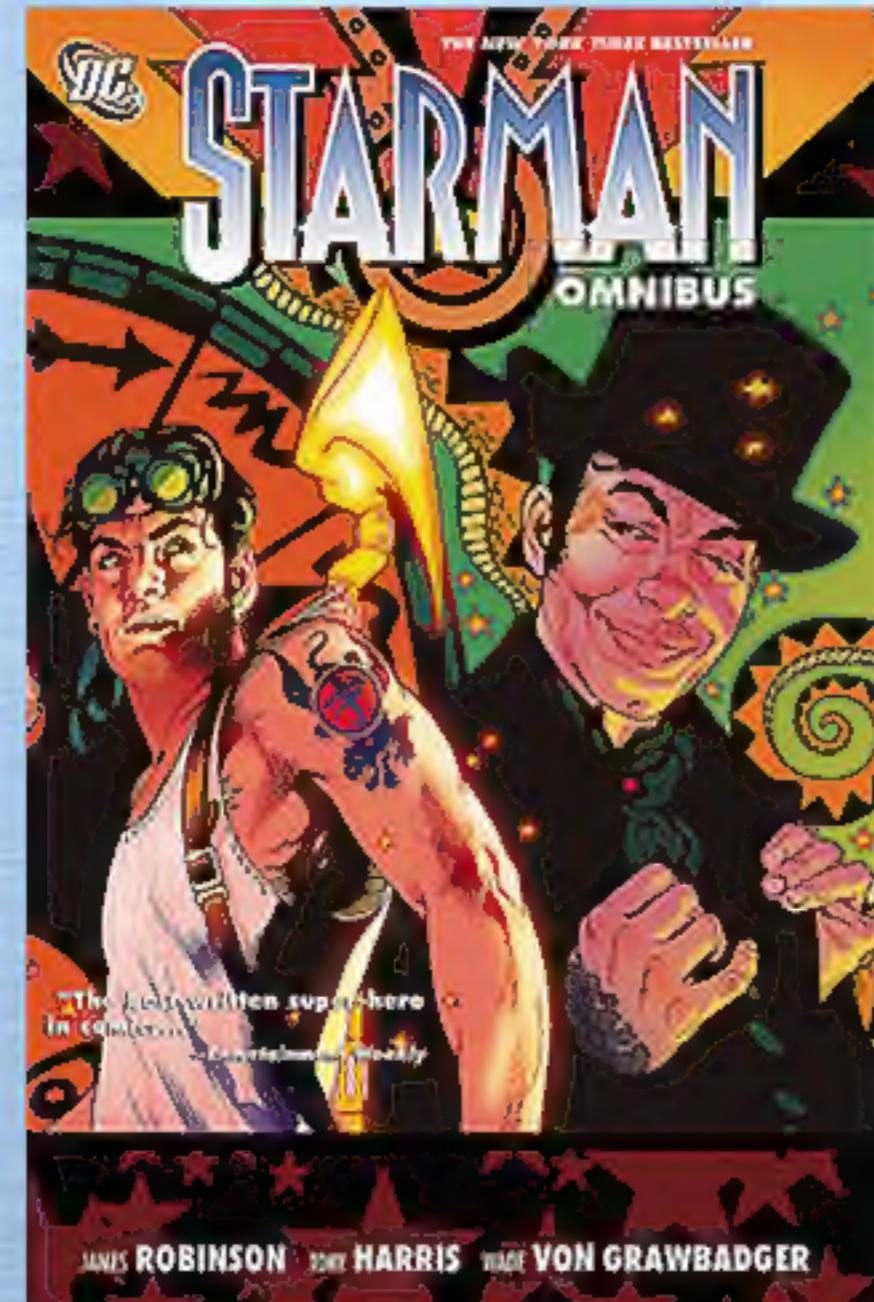


STARMAN OMNIBUS
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with
TONY HARRIS

STARMAN OMNIBUS
VOL 3



with
TONY HARRIS
& others

STARMAN OMNIBUS
VOL 4



with
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